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Extracts from a report of a journey into the Naga Hills in 1844. By MR. BROWNE WOOD, Sub-Assistant Commissioner, in a letter to Captain A. STURT, Principal Assistant Commissioner, Nowgong, dated 14th April, 1844, Golaghat.

According to the instructions received in your letter No. 108 of the 27th of January last, I proceeded on the 4th February on my way towards Dhemapoor; my first day's march being to the Namber nuddee: my second to Bor Pathar; here is a fine open plain with about 300 poorahs of roopeet (not all cultivated,) and a large populous town. The Dhunsiri river flows on its eastern side, the ryots appear to be a thriving people, and during the cold season are generally employed in cutting out boats from the fine timbers to be found in the jungles in the vicinity of Bor Pathar, and Dao Panee river, which boats they dispose of to the ryots and traders of Golaghat and Morung, taking in lieu cash enough to pay their rent; the balance they take in such articles as they require: salt, oil, and cloth.

The 3d march brought me to the Dao Panee river; a river coming from the Rengmah Naga hills, and flowing into the Dhunsiri a few miles (15) above Bor Puthar; the next day Hurreiogon nullah, from this to the Dibroo Panee river; and the following day, the 9th February, I arrived at Dhemapoor.

Dhemapoor, 9th February, 1844.—Arrived at this post about 2 P. M., and found some huts erected for me by the coolies, whom I despatched a few days previous to my departure from Golaghat, for the purpose of clearing the path from Golaghat to this post. Went over to the old fort of Dhemapoor, on the south bank of the Dhunsiri, but the place was so covered with jungle, I was unable to distinguish any thing, excepting some pillars and a gateway; these pillars are of a composition of sand, lime, and goor, &c., extremely hard and durable; several of them are in a perfect state of preservation, others have been split asunder by large trees falling across them; their general height is about 12 feet and diameter 4 feet, some of them very neatly carved. These pillars I am told, formed the ground-work of an extensive building, the distance between each post about 10 feet, and on these pillars, was the platform or *mechaun*. The gateway is of brick, quite perfect at present, but must very shortly fall to pieces, as huge trees have taken root on the top of it. Some of these trees are very large, from one and a half to two feet in diameter. How they thrive up there I cannot imagine; there is also a wall of eight feet high by four to five feet deep surrounding this fort. This wall, I suppose, is half a mile square, excepting the eastern side, where the gateway is; a double ditch surrounds the wall. There are some fine trees in this fort.

10th February.—Remained to-day to inspect the stockade godown, godown accounts, &c. The stockade is on the North bank of the Dhunsiri, and around it is a clearance of about 80 poorahs, cleared by Captain Bigge in 1841, it is however again becoming a heavy jungle of grass and underwood. From the several clusters of plants and trees scattered over this spot, I should say, that the whole of this cleared land had been cultivated. On my inquiring of the Suhadar the cause of this falling off, he informed me, that the sepoy had formerly cultivated the greater part of this land; but their being now moved about from place to place, has prevented their taking any further interest in its cultivation, and they consequently have given it up. I hereupon ordered the Subadar to relieve the guard hut once in six months, instead of once in four months: this arrangement will allow of the sepoy cultivating the land at Dhemapoor and at the other posts. They will sow in June and July, and reap in November.

11th February.—Started this morning at 8 o'clock A. M. for Summagoding, the heavy rain of last night has made the pathway very wet, and swarming with leeches. Summagoding being too great a distance for my coolies, I determined to encamp on a sand bank in the Diboo Panee river, about three miles from the base of the Summagoding hill; from this spot I could distinctly see the houses of the Naga village; here the river is rather broad, huge stones and the wrecks of large and small trees lie in a confused mass. The Diboo Panee is a fine river, much broader and more rapid than the Dhunsiri, its banks are very low, and during the rainy season, the country for several hundred yards inland is inundated. The path from Dhemapoor runs in a S. S. E. direction for about five miles, when meeting the Diboo Panee, it followed its banks to my encampment.

12th February.—At 8 o'clock A. M. started, and arrived at the foot of the hill in about an hour and a half, the path tolerably good, but blocked up in some places by fallen trees and *bet* jungle, the latter strewn across the road by wild elephants, &c. On my way up, came upon two or three spots of cultivation, belonging to the Summagoding Nagas; another hour's march brought me up to the village, which is on the very summit of the hill. About a quarter of a mile from the village, I was met by the two Gaon Booras, who received me most civilly, and welcomed me to their village. I had thought of remaining here this day, but finding that water was very scarce, it being brought up in bamboo *chongahs* from the Diboo Panee, at the Southern base of this hill, I determined to proceed down to the river and there encamp.

I remained in the village for a couple of hours, to rest my coolies and people, and to hear any complaints the villagers might have to make against the other tribe of Nagas. The Gaon Booras on this informed me, that about two years ago, some Nagas of the Kohema tribe had seized two men and one woman of their village, who were going to their field for rice; they had since offered to ransom them, but their offers were so exorbitant, they could not agree with them. Having told them I would investigate their complaints, and having given them some presents, I took my leave; they appeared much pleased with their presents, and went away in high spirits. Summagoding is a fine high hill, height I suppose 2000 feet. On the very summit of it, is the village

"Summagoding," it contains about 100 houses; the men I found to be civil and obliging, but very independent in their notions; they are, however, tributary to the Khonoma Nagas. The river at this point is very narrow, and runs through two high perpendicular walls of rock; the rush of water during the rains is very considerable, width of river not more than 60 feet.

13th February.—Started at half-past 8 o'clock A. M. for Raja-piama, to inspect the tea lands reported to be in those hills; round along the bed of the Diboo Panee, stepping very slippery on the large stones in the river, hardly a pebble or grain of sand to be seen, the bed of the river being filled with large round stones. An hour and a half brought us to the foot of the Raja-piama hills, water nearly the whole way very shallow. Here I directed my people to remain and encamp, whilst I proceeded to the Raja-piama village to look at the tea, accompanied by my *teeklas*, and guard. On arriving at the village, I was met by Jeéreebee Gaon Boora; as unfortunately for me this was a grand festival day with them, the whole party was more or less intoxicated, the Gaon Boora, as head man, more so than his brethren; he nevertheless received me most cordially, and invitingly pressed me to taste of his "*futtica*,"* which to humour him, I put to my lips. After a little further conversation, I requested to be shewn the tea; Jeéreebee immediately escorted me to the spot, where I saw the tea plant growing most abundantly and luxuriantly immediately near to the village; I followed the tea for some distance, and saw very many spots covered with it. Jeéreebee gave me to understand, that the whole of his low hills were covered with tea. I think this may be possible, for tea has been found among the Bazee-piama hills, but in small quantities. The leaves of the plant are large, and of a finer kind than what I have generally seen in the Seeb-sagur and Muttuck divisions. I asked Jeéreebee if he had any objections to my sending up Assamese tea-makers to manufacture the tea on the spot, telling him that I would give him *monees*,† salt, daws, &c., to which, he replied, he would be very happy to accommodate in any way, and that I should be welcome to send up the Assamese tea-makers, and that he would protect them. He agreed also to supply

* A fermented liquor from grain.

† Beads.

them with provisions on my giving him *monees*, salt, &c. In return I cannot say how much tea there may be in these hills, but I am of opinion, that it extends over a great part of these low hills. The late Mr. Grange mentions having met with it among the Jappama and Jykanee Nagas. The Mazepamah and Bezepanoah, have it also on their hills. On my asking him for the fine cloths he had engaged to pay annually to Government, he asked me whether his neighbors and other Nagas had given me in theirs; I told him that some had, and that I was going round to the others, to collect. He told me that he could not give me his five, until the Konoma and Mozoma (his superiors,) had given in theirs; to which I replied, I should remain in his village, until he gave me the five cloths he had agreed to pay to Government, and that I could not go away without them. On this, he had a conference with his chiefs, and presently afterwards Jeereebie brought me his five cloths, but with a very bad grace. I gave him and his four Gaon Booras some presents, with which they were highly pleased, and we parted very good friends. Some of the Naga ryots brought me to my encampment some tea seeds, which they bartered for salt and *monees*. I endeavoured to procure some rice from the Nagas, but they told me, that they had a bad crop that season, and had not a sufficiency for themselves; having been obliged to purchase a supply for their present consumption, they could not afford to give me more than one maund; this of course could not go very far among my people. I had only brought five days' provisions with me from Dhemapoor, half of which was now expended; I therefore determined to return to Dhemapoor, where I expected certain Naga chiefs, whom I had summoned, awaiting my arrival.

14th February.—At 8 o'clock A. M. started from Summagoding, and arrived at 4 o'clock P. M., at our first encampment on the Dibad Panee, this was a long day's march; the route for six miles ran in the bed of the river, sometimes water up to our waists, and extremely cold, coolies very much distressed, footing very uncertain here. On arriving at the south-eastern base of the Summagoding range, we were unable to proceed further along the bed of the river, owing to the deep pools, walls of rock, and rapids. We here came upon Captain Bigge's road across the hills east of Summagoding. This road or pathway crosses three or

four of those hills, average height from 500 to 600 feet, it is tolerably good but jungle (grass and underwood) has again sprung up in it; the bridges and embankments then made by Captain Bigge, have given way, the wood with which they were made, having rotted. Distance across these hills about three miles; having crossed these low hills, we came again on the Diboo Panee river on the northern base of Summagoding, and having followed it about three miles further, we came to our first encampment on this river, coolies, followers, nay all of us, much fagged. On my asking the coolies which route they preferred, they gave the preference to the Naga route across the Summagoding hill. I am also of opinion, that the latter route is preferable to foot passengers; and Captain Bigge's for elephants, horses and cattle; the Naga route is passable throughout the year, whilst the road made by Captain Bigge is passable for only three months in the year when the river is low, and the route can be taken along its bed.

On my return from Raja-piama to-day, a Maun sepoy pointed out to me some tea plants; he took me up a nullah for about 200 yards, we then came upon some high land, and on both sides of this nullah saw the tea plant. On my asking him how he came to know this spot, he informed me, that he had accompanied Captain Bigge in his late expedition, and that they had encamped somewhere near here; that he came here searching for fuel and fell upon the tea; the plants were rather thinly scattered, but there were plenty of them round about in the jungle, some of the trees were large, 20 feet high, and 4 to 5 inches in diameter. This nullah falls into the Diboo Panee river, on its north side, and is about two and half miles from the southern base of the Summagoding hill.

15th February.—Started at 8 o'clock A. M., and arrived at Dhemapoor at 11½ A. M. No Naga chiefs had arrived; coolies I had left behind me here, hard at work at the godown and stockade, grass for thatching very scarce, and is only procurable about two miles distant from the stockade.

16th February.—Chiefs of the Mozoma and Bazepama tribes came in to pay their respects, gave them some presents.

17th February.—As the Upper Rengmah Naga chiefs had not arrived here at my calling, I propose going to Mohung, there to meet them,

visit the *pharree* there, and have a conference with Tularam Seenaputti, regarding the very irregular and lawless conduct of certain of his Kacharee ryots, who are constantly embroiling the Nagas in quarrel one with another, taking the part of the stronger party, and assisting them in looting the weaker one, taking for themselves a good share of the spoils; they go armed with muskets, consequently have very great advantage over the unfortunate Nagas. If also two Naga tribes wish to fight with one another, the richer party purchase the assistance of a few Kacharees, (armed with muskets,) and are sure of becoming the victors; the Kacharees receiving a handsome reward, are always ready to give their assistance to the richer party.

18th February.—Started from Dhemapoor for Mohung at 7 o'clock A. M., and encamped at 3 o'clock P. M., on the Pokaree Jhan, a small streamlet about 13 feet wide, distance about 16 miles; route from Dhemapoor in a South-westerly direction, path very good requiring but little repairs, bridges to be made over several nullahs. This road was made by Tularam Sennaputti in 1841. This road leads the whole way from Dhemapoor through Tularam's own country.

19th February.—Started from Pokaree Jhan, and arrived at Mohung half-past 2 o'clock P. M., distance to-day about 14 miles, path good, through fine open tree jungle to the Jaminoona river, about three miles from Mohung. Here we crossed the Jummoona, and came into a grassy and kuggree jungle, rain drizzling the whole day. The Jummoona is supposed to have its source near to the Topokhing Naga hills, where we crossed it; the river is about 100 feet wide, and very rapid, water up to our middle. The Diboo falls into the Jummoona about a quarter of a mile above the path on its right bank, and again the Diboo river falls into the Jummoona on its left bank about half a mile below the path.

20th February.—Mohung is a town of about 45 to 50 houses on the north bank of the Jummoona, the river is in front of the village, which is here from 80 to 90 feet broad; population Ahoms and Cacharees. Here is a *pharree* under the Jummoonah Mookh thannah, consisting of one Police mohurir and two tecklahs. On the low hills to the north of Mohung are several villages of Meekirs; they are a fine hardy set of men, and make civil and obliging coolies. These people seldom remain

more than three years on the same piece of land ; they prefer clearing new tree jungle to remaining longer, as by that time grass and ekra jungle overrun their clearances, which they find more difficult to eradicate than clearing new tree jungle ; they cultivate vast quantities of cotton, which they dispose of to the Assamese ryots and traders for cash and salt. Cotton thrives beautifully in almost all these low hills. On the higher range to the north of the Meekirs, are the upper Renmah Nagas, some of their villages are but one, and others two days' march from Mohung. Despatched the Kutkees to summon in the chiefs with their cloths, and also a messenger to Tularam Seenaputti, requesting an interview with him at Ramsah, a small village to the west of this a few miles.

21st February.—Not wishing to remain idle here until the arrival of the Naga chiefs and Tularam Seenaputti, I proceeded to the falls of the Jummoona, a distance of about five miles below Mohung, passed through the small village of Ramsah on the north of the Jummoona, and from there, half an hour's walk took us to the falls. Here I encamped for the day, and went to inspect these falls ; chalk, coal, and lime, said to be in their vicinity, these falls are of one continuation for about half a mile. The first of about 30 perpendicular feet ; 2d, about 20 ; 3d, of 12 ; 4th, of 10 feet, and so diminishing until they settle down into the rapids. The river above the falls is full to its banks, below very rapid, with many deep pools. Its banks here are of rock and of hard red sandstone ; some of the rocks in the bed of the river are of immense size. During the rainy season, the body of water rushing down this spot, must be very considerable. There are small hills, height about 150 feet on each bank of the river at the falls. About half a mile from the falls I came upon the chalk as mentioned in the late Mr. Grange's Journal, I found it in the bed of the river, and also two small nullahs falling into the Jummoona. There is a large quantity of it ; but I am of opinion it is pipe clay and not chalk. The coal too I saw ; it is in a small nullah at the eastern base of these small hills on the north bank of the river. The stratum is small and in the bed of this nullah ; but not having the necessary instruments for excavating, I was unable to get any good specimens, I however brought away with me a few pieces ; the upper seam was of a soft blackish substance and easily crumbled in the hand ;

below this, the coal was brittle, and broke into many small pieces. I had nothing but a Naga spear with me, so could not reach the solid coal. I told the Ramsah Gaon Boorah who was with me, to send me some good specimens, and I would reward him. The lime was some few miles below the falls, and too far away for me to visit to-day. I was told by some Meekirs that a small quantity lay in store, or rather had been in store there, but the house in which it was stored, having been burnt down, the lime lay exposed, and became one hard mass and spoilt. Cotton traders from Mohung Ramsah above are here obliged to change boats; the cotton is carried over the small hills below the rapids, and there put into other boats. Thunder storm and rain all night.

22d February.—Returned to Ramsah to await the Seenaputti's arrival. Ramsah is a small village on the north bank of the Jummoona with about twenty houses, population Ahoms and Cacharees. Here I met five Cossiyahs, they had come from Amoepoonjee, and had brought with them daws, kodals, and a few brass utensils, which they barter with the Nagas, Meekirs and Cacharees. I thought the articles very cheap, considering the distance they bring them from. Daws four annas, and kodalees seven and eight annas; they tell me some of their people come over yearly to trade and barter with these Nagas (Rengmas,) Meekirs and Cacharees.

23d February.—Waited till 12 A. M. for Tularam Seenaputti, but he not arriving, I left a message for him to follow me to Dholung, and then started for that village; drizzling rain the whole day. Path very wet.

24th February.—Tularam Seenaputti arrived last evening, and came to-day to pay his respects. Informed him of the frequent disturbances created among the Nagas by some of his Cacharee ryots, residing at and near Semkur, and requested he would have a stop put to such proceedings. I at the same time told him, that I had given orders to the Maun subadar to seize all such parties and to send them down to Golaghat, when they would be dealt with as my superiors would direct, that these aggressions were illegal, and if he did not put a stop to them, that he would be answerable for these aggressions of his ryots. On this he replied, that he was as anxious as myself to put a stop to such

proceedings, and had despatched some of his people for that purpose, but these Semkur Cacharees minded not his orders, and he had not the means at hand of enforcing them. * * * * The Upper Rengmah Naga chiefs now arrived, bringing with them their *lall bundee* of cloths, all excepting seven ; which seven I directed the chiefs to give to the Subadar at Dhemapoor, who would forward them on to me. All the chiefs but one were present ; the absent chief's village being three days' march from Mohung, the Kutkees did not reach that distance. I however told the others, (his brethren,) to tell the absent chief to take his cloth to the Subadar at Dhemapoor. These chiefs complained against those of the Jokophang tribe, for allowing the Abor Nagas, when the latter came in their marauding expedition against the Rengmas, to rest in their (the Jokophang) village, and showing them the route to the Rengmah villages, and in some instances joining these Abors, and fighting with them. I hereupon took the Jokophang chiefs to task, and informed them, that I would hold them responsible for any further aggressions against these Rengmah Nagas, for without their assistance, I was firmly of opinion, that the Abors could not come thus far to commit these marauding expeditions. The Jokophang Nagas replied, that they were a small village, and when the Abors came, they always came in large numbers ; and that they, to save themselves, had shewn the route to the Rengmah villages, but had never once joined such parties of Abors with the intention of looting. I told them that when the Abors again came to their village not to allow them to remain, but to inform the Subadar at Dhemapoor, who was but one day's march from Jokophang, and who would protect both them and the Rengmah Nagas ; they agreed to this arrangement. I gave them some presents and their dismissal. The Rengmah chiefs were willing to accompany me to Golaghat, but said that now it was too late for them, as they were about to commence their crops, they would prefer therefore paying me a visit at Golaghat early this approaching cold season. The whole of the Rengmah Nagas were formerly under one chief, but about the time of the Burmese invasion, separated. Seven villages remained in their old hills, and seven villages went over towards Mohung ; the former trade with the Assamese at Golaghat, the latter with Assamese, Cacharees, and Meekirs at Mohung, and below that village. Having now executed all I had or

wished to do at Mohung, I purpose starting for Dhemapoor to-morrow morning; a severe thunder storm with torrents of rain this evening. Here is a guard of one Naick and four sepoy. No complaints made by any of the Assam Militia either at Mohung or Ramsah. On my asking if they had any complaints to make against them, the ryots said, No.

25th February.—Started from Mohung on my return to Dhemapoor, and arrived at my former encampment on the Pokoijhan; drizzling rain the whole day. On crossing the Jummoona, we found that river had risen upwards of a foot since our previously crossing it; water nearly breast high, obliged to ford, no boat at hand, path very wet, leeches in abundance, rain all night.

26th February.—Started from Pokorijhan and arrived at three o'clock p. m. at Dhemapoor. No Naga chiefs having arrived, and the season being far advanced for further proceedings, I propose returning to Golaghat by water, surveying the Dhunsiri down to Golaghat. The stockade is now completed, and the godown and guard house repaired. I left instructions with the Subadar to send up Kutkees to the Konoma Naga chiefs, summoning them to Golaghat, there to meet me, as they did not think proper to meet me at Dhemapoor.

27th February.—Commenced my survey of the Dhunsiri river, assisted by Gunga Dhur Dey, formerly an ameen in Mr. Thornton's Survey Office, and who had volunteered to accompany me.

28th February.—At 6 o'clock p. m. we arrived near to the Diboo Panee.

29th February.—The 2d day near to the Hurreeojan.

1st March.—The 3d day Dao Panee and 4th day Bor Puther. Here I received a report from my Darogah, informing me, that Captain Brodie, Principal Assistant Sibsagur division, had been awaiting my return for two days, and that Captain Brodie would start for Sibsagur on the morning of the 2d March; wishing much to have an interview with that officer, respecting the arrangements he might wish to be made at Golaghat, I left the finishing of the survey with Gunga Dhur Dey, Ameen.

2d March.—At and at day-light the following morning started by land for Golaghat, and arrived at this station at 10 o'clock p. m.; but too late to see Captain Brodie, who had started that morning at 8 o'clock a. m.

I have the pleasure to annex a separate description of the rivers and roads I met with in my tour.

The Dhunsiri is a fine large river, its general width from Dhemapoor Rivers. to the point where the Dayong river falls into the The Dhunsiri. Dhunsiri, is from 200 to 250 feet; it then considerably widens, and from this point to Golaghat and below, the width is from 350 to 500 feet; its banks are in general low, and during the heavy rains of August, the country for a considerable distance inland, is inundated. There are on the banks and in their vicinity some very fine timbers, such as Nahor,¹ Holock,² Shan,³ Jamoo,⁴ Teta,⁵ Ajar,⁶ Gondhoree,⁷ Khodmid,⁸ Heelgomaree,⁹ Amoree,¹⁰ Soppah,¹¹ Heeleeka,¹² and Ajot.¹³ The river the whole way from Dhemapoor to Bor Pathur is fordable during the months of December, January and February; in many places the water shallows to six inches; boat are obliged to be drawn over these shallows, some of them run a considerable distance. This dragging of boats is rather fatiguing work, and no boats beyond 8 to 10 maunds burden, can proceed to Dhema-poor from this, during these three months. The Dhunsiri from a little below the Namber Nuddee to the Diboo Panee Mookh, is filled with the wrecks of large and small trees, washed into the river during the rains and falling in from its banks; the navigation is extremely tedious and fatiguing; in some places boats are to be dragged across the shallows, in others the passage is stopt up by the fallen trees, which must be removed, and a channel sufficiently large for the boats to pass cleared; cutting through a large tree, taking four men an hour to cut through it; in some places boats are dragged over these fallen trees, and in others passing under them; the current of this river is very sluggish during the months of December, January, February and March. The water is good and clear during these four months, after March, the water becomes thick and muddy.

The Namber is a small hill stream coming from the Rengmah Naga hills, about 60 feet wide, with a fine sandy bed. About a Namber. mile from its confluence with the Dhunsiri on its north bank,

¹ Messnaferrea, ² Diptero Carpus, ³ Artocarpus chaplasha, ⁴ Eugenia, ⁵ Mechelina.

⁶ Lagerstræmica Reginæ, ⁷ Laurus Sassafras, ⁸ ——— ? ⁹ Gmelina ? ¹⁰ ——— ?

¹¹ Michelia ? ¹² Terminalia citrina, ¹³ ——— ?

is a small salt spring; the brine is very thin and weak, and to the tongue hardly perceptible: in appearance this spring is like unto numberless little fountains continually bubbling, a large mass of this water is constantly flowing out. The river, about one and a half mile from this, is another salt spring, but much larger, though the quantity of water is less: the brine is equally weak. The expense of manufacturing salt here, would I am afraid, be very great, and never repay the maker. About a mile from this, in a southerly direction are the Namber falls; the fall here is about 15 feet perpendicular, near to this, in the bed of the river, I found a confused mass, in huge blocks of shells, limestone, &c. The lime is of a superior kind, but difficult to be worked, as the river is too shallow for boats to proceed up so far; the banks are low, and during the rains, the Namber overflows its banks to a considerable extent. This river falls into the Dhunsiri seventeen miles above Golaghat.

The Dao Panee river takes its course from the Rengmah Naga hills; it is very rapid, about 100 feet wide, with a fine sandy
Dao Panee. bottom; its banks are covered with small timber, water shallow, during the cold season it falls into the Dhunsiri, forty-five miles above Golaghat, and sixteen miles above Bor Pather. The Rengmah Nagas were formerly settled on its bank, close under the hills, but were driven from thence by the inroads of their enemies, the Lota, Tokophang and Abor Nagas; from being once a populous and powerful people, they have become weak and scattered. I have intimated to the Rengmah Naga chiefs, that if they will again settle on the Dao Panee, I would allow them a guard to protect them; the guard will also be convenient in keeping open the communication between Golaghat and Dhemapoor during the rains. Since my return to this station, I called together the chiefs of the Rengmah and Lota tribes, and am happy to say, that I have succeeded in settling their former differences amicably; they have agreed to trade together at Golaghat, and for the future to be friends, their differences were settled over a grand feast that I gave them; three villages of the Rengmahs have since this, commenced clearing lands on the Dao Panee for their habitation. This is a good beginning, and I am in hopes the remaining villages will soon follow their example.

The Hurreeojan is a small muddy nullah, coming from the Jokophang Hurreeojan River. Naga hills; the North bank is Tularam Sennaputti's southern boundary; it falls into the Dhunsiri, 28 miles below Dhemapoor.

The Diboo Panee is a noble stream, as wide, if not wider than the Dhunsiri, and much more rapid ; it falls into the Diboo Panee River.

latter river 10 miles below Dhemapoor. This river I believe, comes from the Konoma range of hills during the rainy season ; a large quantity of wrecks of trees is swept from this river into the Dhunsiri. A few miles from its confluence with the Dhunsiri, the bed of this river is filled with huge roundish stones, for the most part its banks are composed of these large stones mixed with gravel and earth.

The Jummoona river is already well known, therefore no further mention may be required from me.

By the present route, the total distance from Golaghat to Dhemapoor is about 60 miles ; this might be considerably shortened, say Roads. by 10 miles, and a good open path 10 feet wide through the heavy tree jungle, be cut for Co's Rs. 40 per mile, total expence would be Co's Rs. 2,080. The path at present from Golaghat to the Namber is very inferior, for the most part running through broken ground, distance 10 miles ; from the Namber to Bor Pather, path tolerably good, through open tree jungle and high country, intersected by many small nullahs, which require bridges, distance eight miles. From Bor Pather to Dao Panee tolerably good, many swamps and nullahs intersect the path, distance nine miles. From Dao Panee river to Hurreeojan, very inferior, the path is more like a wild animal's track than a road, distance 12 miles. From Hurreeojan to the Diboo Panee river again very inferior, swamps and nullahs are in abundance, distance 13 miles. From the Diboo Panee to Dhemapoor no route, except in the bed of the Dhunsiri, and this only passable during the three months of December, January, and February, when the water is shallow ; distance nine miles, total distance by present route 61 miles. By the route I have sketched in the map, this distance may be shortened by 10 miles. I should prefer the road from Golaghat to Bor Pather running through Nagorah and across to Bor Pather, to the Namber Nuddee route ; the land is high and better adapted for a road, besides being the means of opening a direct communication between Golaghat and the large Mouzahs of Nagorah Geladharee, Mackreong, &c. which is at present much required. The road from Dhemapoor to Summagoding made by Capt. Bigge is rather circuitous, and leads for three miles along the

south bank of the Diboo Panee, it then enters the bed of that river and proceeds thus for three miles, when it reaches the hills on the eastern base of the Summagoding range; the road crosses these hills (distance three miles,) it again enters the bed of the river for another two miles and then comes to the southern base of the Summagoding hills; from here to the foot of the Rajahpiama hills, the road is in the bed of the river, and there stops. Captain Bigge had a path cut in the jungle (grass) along the edge of the bank, but this has been entirely cut away by the encroachments of the river. The route along the bed of the river is very tedious and fatiguing, being for the most part over large stones and rocks, stepping exceedingly slippery, and the remainder through the water, which in some places is up to a man's middle. The path by which the Summagoding Nagas and others come to Dhemapoor, is the more direct of the two. I went to Summagoding by the Naga route, and returned by Captain Bigge's; the coolies and people who accompanied me preferred the Naga route, and I also gave it the preference; for although the ascent to Summagoding is rather tedious, it is far less fatiguing of the two. The distance direct from Dhemapoor to Summagoding by Captain Bigge's route is 18 miles, by the Nagas, 15 miles. To persons wishing to proceed to the Konoma Naga hills and beyond, Captain Bigge's route would be preferable. Elephants and horses can also go by this route, but to Summagoding the Naga route is the better of the two; neither horses nor elephants can ascend the Summagoding hills, as in some places the rocks are so steep, that steps have been cut in them to enable persons to go up by. For 3000 Rs. a good pathway might be made from Dhemapoor to Raja piama, passable throughout the year. I would take the path over the low hills in preference to trusting to the water-course. If this sum were sanctioned and I permitted, I should be most happy to superintend the road. Early in December is the best season for road-making, the country is then passable, and the ryots have finished with their crops, and willing to work.

Notes taken on a Tour through parts of Baloochistan, in 1838 and 1839, by Hajee Abdun Nubee, of Kabul. Arranged and translated by Major ROBERT LEECH.

(Concluded from p. 706.)

From Bampoor to Oodeean is a 4 days' journey over a waste, having Oodeean. no habitations, and even no water to a traveller without a good guide to lead him to the different pools. Fodder for camels is however plentiful. The village of Oodeean is a small one, about Cultivation. the size of Kalag, and as scantily cultivated; it produces wheat, barley, sesame, peas of the mash and niah kind, beans, juwaree and dates.

The chiefs of Oodeean are Shahbuz Khan and Buhram Khan, uncle of Mahommed Aly of Bampoor. They are Narvees, and the inhabitants are called Oodeeanees, who are neither Baloochees or Persians, Sunnees or Sheeahs. They are tributary to Narmasher, and pay a revenue of 500 packages of dates, and their own chiefs collect 1-5th of the grain produce.

Deer are so plentiful at Oodeean, that the inhabitants can as easily Deer. cook venison for a guest as mutton, and indeed they live much on it themselves; these animals do great damage to the crops.

The following is the road to Nurmasher from Oodeean: first stage

Road. Juruft; second waste; third the remote dry lands of Bam; fourth Narmasher.

Ramishk is a small place, dependent on Bashkurd or Bashakerd, the chief of which district is Ala Verdy Khan, who is dependent Ramishk. on the Governor of Seer. The chief, or kudhkhuda of Ramishk is Kareem, who collects 1-5th of the produce. From Ramishk

Road. to Jusk direct is very difficult hilly road as follows: first stage Keelan; second Zameendar; third Boekun; fourth Gorabeen; fifth Budee; and sixth Jusk. The distance may be 50 kos; and the direction of the road S. W. The road is difficult even for footmen; there are no habitations, and it is much infested by thieves.

The cultivation of Punoch is not extensive, it consists of barley Punoch. wheat, juwaree, rice, tobacco and dates.

Kuteck and Matarabad are included in Punoch, which pays a tribute of 40 tomans Kujaree ready money, 10,000 maunds of grain and

200 packages of dates to Ala Verdy Khan of Bashkurd; this is collected by the local governor, Futteh Khan, who is deputed in these parts. The Futteh Khan. Bashkurd governor, Futteh Khan, is a Tokhee Ghiljee, son of Mahommed Khan, and some connection of Shahbudeen Khan Ghiljee of Candahar.

The fort of Punoch is very small and insignificant. Punoch has to the
 Fort. east Sashar, and a hill of specimen No. 8 to the west, and Ramishk to the north; the east of Oodeean and west of Bazman, and to the south Bint and Dehan.

From Punoch to Bampoor is a four days' journey to Gik, six days to
 Road. port Golak, and five days a very difficult road.

Futteh Khan Tokhee in the time of Futteh Aly Shah, was governor
 The Khan's History. of Narmasher, part of which district he held in jageer, as did his father before him, who had been brought with other Ghiljees from his native country as hostages by Nadir Shah. Mahommed Shah, however, on the plea of his no longer requiring Afghan hostages, ordered him to vacate Bamean, and retire beyond the Persian frontier. This he did not do until besieged in the fort, which before he sometime gallantly defended; at last being obliged to evacuate, he retired to Seisthan and resided there for a year; after which he paid a visit and offered his services to his former friend, Ala Verdy Khan of Bushkurd, who promised him the government of Punoch, provided he could conquer

Tender of service. it from the Baloochees. He went, conquered, and now enjoys it. At the time I was at Punoch, the English Government was in possession of the Island of Kharag, and Futteh Khan by letter offered his services to the resident at Bushire, and I took the liberty of forwarding the letter, and procuring the answer.

Futteh Khan has great influence in Kirman, being great ally of the Influence in Kirman. Beglarbezee Aghar Khan, who is a son of Khaleebella Shah, the head of a large religious sect, of which the Mergats of Cabool compose one division; this Aghar Shah being also one of the

Force. malcontents of Persia, as it now is. Futteh Khan has a body of 500 of his own tribe around him.

I remained 10 days at Punoch, and on the eleventh (10th April,) started in company with the 8 Hajees, with whom I had parted at Bampoor, and whom I again met at Punoch, and returned towards Motarabad until I came on to the Kami Seereech, where I spent the

night. I travelled in this kour for 3 stages, sometimes due South, at Seereech. other times S. S. W., over a very difficult rivulet bed winding between hills. On the fifth day, emerging from the kour arrived at the port of Seereech, at which were a few huts of poor fishermen, who brought us some boiled fish.

16th April.—Leaving Seereech proceeded over a level road, the Gubreg. ground abounding with salt, to Gubreg, in a due west direction; here I spent the night in the khel of Meer Abdulla. It coming on to rain, he insisted on my halving the one-roomed cabin with himself and wife. One of my companions seeing the lady undress before us all without the least punctilio, uttered some abuse in Pushto of Balooch customs, which remark Meer Abdulla requested me to interpret, which I did, by saying, my companion was merely praising the unaffected hospitality of the Baloochees.

17th April.—Travelled over a level road due west to Jegeen, which Jegeen. belonged to Meerza Aly, son of Meer Hajee of Jusk, who entertained us with butter, curds and dates.

18th April.—Reached over a fine level road in a S. W. direction 8 kos, and turning a promontory, turned in a N. W. direction, and towards evening arrived near Jusk, and put up in the huts of a few fishermen.

19th April.—Two kos further brought us to Jusk, where we took up our lodgings in the mosque.

Jusk is bounded on the East by the river Seereech, beyond which Boundaries. is the district of Gik; on the West by Seereek; on the North by the Bashkurd mountains 4 kos distant; on the South by the sea.

The following are the sea-port towns dependent on Jusk; Seereech, Port Towns and Zabrey, and Jegeen. The districts are Bahmadee-zer-i-District. koh, Koh-i-Mubarak, and Barezok Myan Khisht.

The cultivation of Jusk depends on the rain; it consists of wheat, Cultivation. barley, millet, juwaree and cotton. The country belongs to Sazad Saeed, Imam of Muscat, whose resident deputy is Meer Hajee, by tribe a Kooasee, or descendant of Kar Kaoosee.

The revenue may amount to 500 tomans, equal to 3000 Fransa Revenue. rials, of which the Imaum receives 300 tomans, and when there is rain, a tax is levied of $\frac{1}{4}$ th of the produce, and may

amount to 6000 Jusk maunds, none of which reaches the Imaum. Meer Hajee has nine sons, the eldest of whom is Meer Hussein, who governs Seereek.

The principal men of Jusk are Meer Abdulla, Lashharee, Shah Principal Men. Aly, Murad Aly of the tribes of Singala and Hot, who could collect for Meer Hajee 1,000 men.

The height of the outer walls of the fort is four guz, and is of an oblong shape, being 120 paces long and 80 broad. The height of the inner walls is 10 guz; within the fort are 8 very small dismounted guns. The gate looks towards the north, and the fort contains six wells.

The proceeds of the port of Jusk are appropriated by Sumael Bijad, who is the Imaum's Jamadar of Baloochees. Its farm amounts to 100 rials.

From Jusk to Angaran, the capital of Bashkurd, is a six days' journey over a difficult road. To Manab 56 kos, to Muscat 2 days by sea, to Choubar 3 days by sea, and 10 by land.

The following posts are embedded in Jusk; viz. Astakhari Kumarao, Horak and Seereek.

The animals found at Jusk, are cattle and sheep, goats, camels, deer, horses, hogs, and jackalls.

There are no fruits; a few dates have been lately introduced, as well as one or two cocoanut trees.

The productions of Jusk are, besides wheat and ghee, wool and fish, which with sheep are exported to Muscat. The following duties are levied at the port—

On every kupah or mat package 1 Mahummodee; on every dabber Duties. of ghee 5 Mahummodies or $\frac{1}{2}$ rial; on every slave 1 rial. On every package or jalut of dates half a Mahummodee; on every ass from Muscat 4 Mahummodees.

There are no traders or measures. The coins current are rials, Currency. karanees and Seetaramee ducats, and Mahummodees. The Weigh. maund contains 24 kyies, each kyies weighing 18 Co's. Rs., and the maund equals $1\frac{1}{2}$ Muscat maund.

Vessels to Muscat and return throughout the year. Freight is at the Freight. rate of one Mahummodee per passenger, and 3 Mahummodees the candy.

I spent eight days at Jak with Meer Hajee, who during the whole time importuned me for love-charms and specifics. The Hajees proceeded on their way to Baghdad, and the next day on some other Hajees returning from the same place, I joined them, and started for Gik, having refused the offer of Meer Hajee to enter his service, and having excused myself from prosecuting my journey towards Baghdad, on the plea, that it was too late in the season, and that I had heard that the Persian Gulf was very unsafe, from the number of British vessels cruizing there.

28th April.—Proceeded in an Easterly direction 2 kos to Gik, and 8 Shah-i-non. kos further to Shah-i-non over a plain, half way reached a hot spring, in the neighborhood of which sulphur is situated ; but it was found not worth working by a miner, that Sazad Saeed had sent to examine it. There is a shorter hilly road from Jusk to Shah-i-non, but without water at the latter place. We were treated to curds and dates, and asked to pray for rain.

29th April.—Proceeded 8 kos to Jignee over a level, road plain, Jignee. where wood and grass are plentiful. At this place, a rivulet from Bashkurd discharges itself into the sea, where it is called Kami Bashkurd.

30th April.—At 8 kos arrived at Gobreg over a good level road in Gobreg. an easterly direction, where there are plenty of date-trees and scattered huts. Here we were presented with a bed, the tithe of the flock, and the good woman of the house got up before dawn, and cooked a fowl for the next stage for us.

1st May.—Proceeded 5 kos over a level road in an Easterly direction to the confines of Gobreg, where we stopt at a pool, and then continuing our journey, arrived towards the afternoon at Hulk-i-Khana ; Hulk-i-Khana. a collection of mat huts under date-trees. This was the Hulk or village in which Meer Abdulla, my former acquaintance lived, and he received me with the same hospitality as on the former occasion. Just as it was getting night, the wife of my host awoke me, having a bottle of warm water in her hand, and reminded me, that it was time to perform my ablutions and say my morning prayers. I was not long allowed to remain astonished at this mark of attention ; as the lady taking me on one side, and remarking that I seemed a discreet and modest young man, requested me to prescribe something

nourishing for her lord and master, who was becoming old at a much faster rate than she at all *affected*, or was pleased with. I gave her a few roots of *salab misree*, at which she uttered a thousand thanks.

2d May.—Proceeded 5 kos over a level road without water, the ground indicating the presence of salt, to the rivulet or kour of See-Sorag. reech, leaving which, and after another 3 kos arrived at Sorag, and put up in a fisherman's hut.

3rd May.—Proceeded 8 kos over a good level road, and passing here and there date and bar trees, arrived at the hulk of Dilshád, Dilshád. where a lamb was killed for us, and the head served up for us in the morning, but without eyes. From which I strongly suspected, that had the animal not being blind, we should have had to feed on curds and dates.

4th May.—Proceeded 8 kos over a road generally level without Kunaro. water to Kunaro, belonging to Sultan Shah, of the chief division or *sarsukar* of the tribe of Hot. There is a better road immediately along the sea coast. At the stage, there are about 15 mat-huts, and grass and fire-wood in plenty.

5th May.—Proceeded 6 kos over a level road to Kaiwan, and put Kaiwan. up in the house of one Khaladad, where we also had a lamb given us. I mention these presents to show the hospitality of the people of the Dasht, by which name the low coast is designated.

6th May.—Proceeded 8 kos to a collection of huts of Dashtees, still in the district of Kurwán.

7th May.—At 8 kos arrived at the confines of Karwán, and put up Stage. in the *khel* of one Dost Mahommed, by tribe a Singala of the principal division. To the East of this place is the plain of Keer and Beer; to the West Jusk; to the North Bint and Dehan; and to the South the sea-coast and port of Kolah.

From Jusk to Karwán is a level road, not however well de-Summary. fined, and requiring a guide over the Dasht; the inhabitants of which are called Dashtees. The cultivation, which is chiefly wheat, depends on the rain. The people are, as I said before, very hospitable, and the general direction of the road is Easterly. The inhabitants insisted on our praying for rain, notwithstanding the day before they had a shower accompanied with lightning, which had killed

a young man and his bullock, who had taken refuge beneath a tree.

8th May.—Proceeded 8 kos to Kourandap, or junction of rivulets, Kourandap. over a road partly in a rivulet. I stopped in a bed of the rivulet that comes from Bint, Dehan and Punoch; found no habitations. From this, Bint and Dehan are 10 kos distant, the governor of which former place is Meer Ahmed, deputed on the part of the governor of Gik, who has the supervision also of the Dasht ports. The direction of this day's road was sometimes due North, and sometimes N. N. E.

9th May.—Travelled 8 kos over a difficult road to Chokan, a place Chokan. with twenty huts among date trees, and supplied with running water.

10th May.—After 10 kos march in an Easterly direction arrived at Muht. Muht over a difficult hilly road, containing thirty huts. In the neighbouring hills flint glass, specimen No. 4, is procured. As I was about going to sleep, news arrived that Mahommed Aly Khan of Bampoor, had made a descent on Sashar, killing, wounding, and taking prisoners 150 of the inhabitants, 50 of whom he sacrificed to his father's manes. The chief of Sashar, Gholam Shah, and the inhabitants of Ispoka, having fled to Gik.

11th May.—Discovered on waking, that I had been spoiled and put off my guard, by the honesty of the Dashters; for my ass had been, through my carelessness, stolen during the night. Hiring another one to Gik, for I Mahummodee, arrived after an 8 kos march at Gik, and put up as usual in the mosque, the *akhund* of which proved to be a Saiyed formerly of Candahar, who received me kindly and entertained me.

12th May.—Went this day to complain of the theft of my ass to Chief. the chief, Surfraz Khan, whom I found quite a youth, and offered me a safe place to put my goods in, and explained that his uncle had gone towards Chanbár on a foray, and no doubt would bring some asses back with him, one of which I should have in lieu of my lost one. On sending for my baggage, a crowd collected round the English sword and iron scabbard, which I brought away with me on the night of my escape from the Rodbáree, and many questions were asked, what right I, as a Hajee, had to such an article. On explaining, that I was once a soldier, they mentioned that an English gentle-

man many years back had been at Gik, in whose possession they first saw an iron scabbard.

Gik is bounded on the East by Heet ; on the West by Bint and De-Boundaries. hán ; on the North by hills beyond which is Sushar ; and on the South by the plain of Keer and Beer.

The following villages are included in the district and government of Dependencies. Gik: Bint, Dehan, Heechan, Muht, and Kowhoorakon ; and the posts dependent are Seereech, Rapsh, Gleek, Tong, Goordeom, Puzur, Para, Tes, post of Chanbar, (properly Chhabar.)

The land of Gik is confined, the water is plentiful, and the inhabitants numerous.

The regent as it were of Gik, during Surfraz Khan's minority is Chief. Deen Mahommed ; his uncle Mehrab Khan, the former's elder brother and governor of Gik, was killed in action by Mehrab Khan Lung of Bampoor. The tribe of the chief is Bubdai.

The province of Gik, under an efficient government, might furnish a revenue of 1,000 ducats, 4,000 maunds of grain, and 1,000 packages of dates.

The principal men of Gik are Jangeer-i-Malak, Gohrami Meerza, Principal Men. Wukul-i-Pahlivan, Meer Jangeer-i-Murak, Meer Zaly, Enemies. Shah Habeeb, Meer Shahee, Murad Mahommed, Dost Mahommed, Shah Abdulla, who are all Buledars, secretly inimical to the interest of the present chief. And the following are friendly: Shah Deen Mahommed, Meer Aludad, Meer Ahmed of Bint, Yar Mahommed of Dehan, Meer Jehangeer Buleda, Meer Dost Mahommed Singala, Dil Murad Singala, Meer Khulakdad Singala, Shahbaz Singala, Sultan Shah Hot, Jamah Hot, Rais

Meer Burhan of Hijbar. Besides the following, on account Friends. of their feuds with the chief of Bampoor, Ghulam Shah Susharee, Futteh Khan Ghiljie of Punoch. On the other hand, the friends of the Bampoor chief are enemies, such as Ibrahim Khan of Pahra, Husen Khan of Aptar, Mahommed Shah of Sib, and Ghulam Rasool Afshanee.

The government of Deen Mahommed is unpopular, and the Ajol once went to Muskat to complain of the extortions they were suffering under, and invited Suzad Saeed to invade their country.

The following is the amount of the different posts and farms:—

<i>Posts.</i>		<i>Chiefs.</i>		<i>Farms.</i>
Sureech,	..	Dil Murad Singala,	..	14 ducats.
Rapsh,	..	Jamak Hot,	.. ..	55 ditto.
Galak,	..	.. ..	..	35 ditto.
Tang, ..	..	Shah Bey Singala,	..	nothing.
Goordem,	..	.. ..	..	40 ducats.
Puzm,	..	.. ..	..	20 ditto.
Para, ..	..	.. ..	..	8 ditto.
Tes, ..	..	.. ..	..	15 ditto.
Chanbar, (part of)	..	.. ..	..	40 ditto.

The Dashtees formerly paid to Mehrab Khan Bubdai 70 camels as *salamees* or present, besides their regular revenue from their dry lands.

The following is the revenue derived from the Dasht:—

Karwan.	..	..	...	40 ducats Seetaramee.
Bolak,	..	..	...	40 ditto.
Sorak,	..	..	..	40 ditto.
Fishermen of Rasph,	..	..	..	40 ditto.
Bint and Dehan,	..	..	..	40 ditto.

The circumference of the walls of Gik is 1,400 paces, the walls are dilapidated in many parts, and in others 10 guz. The Meeree walls are 40 guz high, and 200 paces in circumference, it is "*ba-man*," or partly filled inside. In the citadel is a well of great depth. There is one gate to the Meerae and one to the Passel.

From Gik to Bampoor is a 6 days' journey, 4 of which to Peep is not
Roads. a gun road. To port Tang via Keer and Beer, 4 days over a very difficult road. To port Choubar, 6 days, about 50 kos via Kouran, Kuroch, and Lag Dan-Dan, over a difficult road. There is a better road, however, via Jalae, Kalag, Nakencha, Daroodar, Chai Basa, Nisheemun, Peer Garee, and Sorkum, between which two latter places the road is somewhat difficult. From the latter takes over a plain thence to Chanbar over a hilly road. From Gik to Bamishk 8 days, to Bahua 3 days.

There are mangoes in Gik, and mulberries in Heechán; besides grapes, figs, peaches and apples are in small quantities. The

spring productions of Gik, are wheat, barley, ghee, wool and beans; Produce. and those of the autumn, juwaree, rice, dates and cotton, all which are consumed in the district, except ghee and wool, which are exported to the port of Choubar.

There are 4 shoe-makers, 100 cotton weavers, 8 blacksmiths, 4 car-Artificers. penters, and 2 Hindoo traders, the prosperity of Gik hav-Prosperity. ing considerably decreased under the present governor, Deen Mahommed, from what it was under Mehrab Khan and Mahommed Khan Beledais.

The following articles of merchandise are yearly consumed in Gik:—Kandakee 1,000 pieces, mashroo 10 pieces, iron 3 candies, powder Consumption. and lead 1 candy, and salt fish 200 camel loads. The Hire. price of conveying which to or from the port is 4 Rs. the camel. Currency. The following coins are current, Seetaramee ducats, rials, Weight. França and Mahommeedes. One maund equals our Company's seer.

Agents' charges are half the profits, and sometimes six annas in the rupee.

At Gik I turned physician, where I spent 8 days during this time. Return from foray. Deen Mahommed returned empty handed from Choubar, but bringing prisoners as slaves and 40 ducats from Jes, as usual in Balochistan. We had not conversed long, before he asked for love charms. My indulging his fancy in this matter, and putting a little plaster on an old* sword round on his nephew's head, got me a substitute for my stolen ass, and I made preparations for starting. A fortnight before my arrival at Gik, a Persian calling Aly Shah. himself Aly Shah arrived with my ass, and one pair of saddle bags, and tried to persuade my friend, Saiyud Mahommed of Gik, most to accompany him on a tour of speculation, through Scinde, where he expected to reap a good harvest.

22nd May.—Left Gik, and proceeded over a generally level stony road 12 kos to Bug, having now and then to cross a rivulet.

The first 6 kos was in a N. E. and a E. N. E. direction, and the remaining 6 are a S. E. and E. S. E. direction.

* Sic in MS. ? Sore?—Eds.

The chief of the place is Meer Murad, who lives in a small fort of no importance, surrounded by date trees. Its revenue may amount to 20,000 maunds of grain and 1000 packages of dates.

23d May.—Proceeded 2 kos to the fort of Heet, which belongs to Ghulam Rusool Afshanee, who has lately thrown off his allegiance to Kasarkund.

And thence to Kasarkund the road is a good level one, in an Easterly direction 4 kos.

This district has to the East, Purod Sangundaz; to the West, Heet and Bug; to the North, Koh-i-tolad; to the South, Bahua and Doshtyae.

The cultivation here is confined; it consists of barley, wheat, beans, peas, and rice in great quantity, which is reaped three times a year. The irrigation is plentiful.

The chief is Shah Deen Mahommed, son of Shah Abdulla Beledai, of the Mulookzur division, who has not more than 50 regular retainers, although he might collect 2,000 men.

The revenue in ready money amounts to 40 ducats, and that in kind to 2,000 maunds of rice, and 1,500 packages of dates.

The principal men next to the chief's brothers, Shah Dost Mahom-
Principal Men. med, Shah Ahmed, and his son Shah Abdulla, are Kador-
dad, Sher Mahommed Mulla Ibrahim, Sahib Kadeen, Meer Azeez and Dewan Hukeem. The following are the chief's cousins and
Enemies. his enemies, Shah Kumal, Shah Tanzai and Shah Mahom-
med Murad, who is now in voluntary exile. Indeed the government of the present chief is popular with few.

The height of the fort walls is 10 guz, and thickness one-half guz,
Fort. and the circumference 800 paces, being "*baman*;" it is of mud and of great antiquity. The *muree* is 200 paces in circumference, having walls 20 guz high. There is a well in the fort. The citadel gate is towards the west.

From Kasarkund to Bampoor is a 6 days' journey, the road is I
Roads. hear as follows: To Champ in a rivulet bed over a stony road; thence sandy soil, difficult for guns; from Kasarkund to Bukwa 3 days through a rivulet viâ Dashtzaree; the former place belongs to Gool

Mahommed Jathgal, and the latter to Meer Abdee Jathgal; to Chabar 5 days.

Among the fruits, mangoes are plentiful; there are besides lemons, limes, figs, pomegranates and peaches in small quantities.

On arriving at Kasarkund, I put up in the same mangoe garden that the inhabitants said Captain Grant had encamped in, in 1810; it is situated to the West of the fort, and contains besides mangoes, limes and lemons. I staid 8 days at Kasarkund.

1st June.—Leaving Kasarkund returned to Bug, which has been described before.

2d June.—Leaving Pong, proceeded in a S.W. direction in a rivulet stages. bed 8 kos, to a few tents of Baloochees, where I sold my ass for 2 ducats, and hired another for 1 ducat to convey me as far as Chabar, stipulating that I was to be taken there after 2 nights on the road. As no supplies were to be got, I purchased a sheep and some dates for the journey, and starting in the evening, arrived in the Peeri Garee. morning at Peeri Garee, a pool of water; the direction of the road varying from S.S.W. to S.WbE. (?) the road not being a gun one.

4th June.—Started in the evening on account of the great heat of the day, and proceeded till midnight over a stony bed of a rivulet, when we emerged into a mountain skirt, and towards morning, arrived at Sarkum at a few huts of Baloochees.

5th June.—After spending the morning at Sarkum, started and arrived at the bunder of Puzm, where I got a boat to convey me to Chabar for 1 Mahommedee, where I arrived.

6th June.—Got on board a *boojee*, or boat, and spending a night at sea, arrived next day at Muscat, my object for visiting which place was two-fold.

1st. To get Futteh Khan's letter on its way to the resident at Abooshahr. 2d. To improve the state of my funds. And here let me pity the man fated to risk his life or property to a Mukran *boojee*; they are laden to the very utmost, and have invariably bulwarks of matting and bamboo.

The largest of them is 10 candies burden; the best are built at Matra near Muscat; the common sort at the chief ports of the Mukran coast, such as Gwadar and Chabar. The planks of which the boats are

made, and indeed the whole materials, are brought from Bombay. Some of these vessels go as far as Abooshahr, Busra, Bombay, and the Malabar Coast. The pilots and seamen are Mukranees, who most of them speak Arabic, Scindh, and Hindustanee, besides their own Mukranee dialect.

Most of the *boojees* I have seen, are carefully provided with good life-preservers.

Two days after arriving at Muscat, I waited on Khaja Reuben, and delivered Futteh Khan's letter for transmission to the resident at Khaja Reuben. Bushire, at the same time requesting him to assist me in cashing a hoondie I had with me on Gwadar; this he told me, he should find a difficulty in doing. I returned home, and fed on nothing that night but grief, notwithstanding Khaja Reuben had read my passport.

10th June.—After selling an old carpet, I called on my friend Mullah Boigan. Mulla Boigan Baloch, son of Mulla Hajee, who was astonished to see me in the plight I was in. On explaining my circumstances to him, he immediately offered me the loan of 40 French rials, to be remitted to him on my arrival at Gwadar; and Mulla Mulla Yoosoof. Yoosoof Affghan, of Tughan, insisted on my living with him during my stay at Muscat, which lasted 6 days, during which time I purchased some medicines to help me through the remainder of my journey.

15th June.—Leaving Muscat* after being, on the first attempt which I made the night before, driven back by contrary wind, and spending Gwadar. one night at sea, arrived next evening at Gwadar, and despatched besides the 40 rials I owed Mullah Boigan, 100 more for the purchase of pearls, and I remained two days at Gwadar; and hiring a boat arrived,

18th June.—At Chabar, having been a night at sea, and put up in Chabar. the mosque within the fort, where I gave myself out as a Hajee just returned from the pilgrimage viâ Muscat.

Port Chabar has to the East Bahua and Doshtzoree; to the West Boundaries. the sea; to the South the sea; and to the North the district of Kasarkund.

* This passage is conjectural; owing to very defective MS.—Eds.

The port belongs to the Imaum of Muscat, who realizes from it 2120 tomans, each toman being equal to 9 França rials. By the farm granted to Usmán Jatgál of this, Meer Aldee, chief of the Dashtgorees, receives 530 rials for protecting the port from inroads from the interior. The chief of Gik also receives 40 ducats, the amount of some ancient hereditary right. The inhabitants are fishermen and Lotee Khajas, which latter are traders.

The fort of Chabar is 140 paces in circumference, having walls 10 guz high, in very bad repair, and the fort crumbling.

Chabar has to the north a hill which abounds in talc, (specimen No. 5,) and in which is found wild indigo.

From Chabar to Kech is a 10 days' journey over a well-inhabited and good road. To Tump 8 days, to Bawa 3 days, to Dashtgaree 1 day.

The productions of Chabar are fish roes (potas) procured in June and July, from the Ker fish; fish fins procured from the pishik fish; both of these articles are exported to Bombay.

Chabar is the sea-port town of Bampoor, Gik and Kasarkund.

There are 3 dyers, 3 goldsmiths, 2 confectioners, 1 shoemaker, and 1 blacksmith.

The farmer of the port, Usman Jatgal, is the principal trader, and next to him, Wareeyun Lotega, who trades with a capital of 20,000 rials.

The following are the estimated imports of Chabar: iron 20 candies, lead and powder 10 candies, Kandakee cloth 2,000 pieces, mashroo 100 pieces, turmeric 20 candies, pedlery 500 rials, silk soosee 100 pieces, ———,* and muslins 1,000 rupees, Manzarone rice 50,000 maras or packages. Dates from Batana 20,000 packages which are consumed by the Jatgals of Butwa and Dashtgoree. Rice of the red Sindh kind, called koilasee, 50 candies, in years of dearth.

The maund of Chabar equals 10 Company's seers, which is the Weights. Mussulman weight. The Hindoo or Bakal maund being just half.

* Illegible in MS.—EDS.

The price of a passage for a single individual to Muscat is 2 Ma-Freight. hommadees, and the freight of a candy 2 Mahommadees; a passenger to Bombay or candy of goods, pays 1 kuroosh of rials. Kuser are not now exported to Bombay as they were formerly when they had cost 3 or 4 ducats each.

The customs of Chabar may amount to 2,000 kuroosh. The import Duties. duty on Hindoos is 4 per cent., and on Mussulmen 3 per cent. The duties levied on goods from the interior are farmed for 150 rials, which is paid to Meer Abdee. From the fish maws and fins the Government exact 10, and the right of fishing is farmed for 45 rials.

The duties on matting is also farmed for 15 rials. At the port Salt Tax. of Pava, there are salt pans; duty (?) is levied on every boat according to the following scale:—

Chabar boat, 3 Mahommadees.

Gwadar ditto, $\frac{1}{2}$ Rail.

Arab ditto, .. . 2 and 3 rials.

The coins current are Mahommadee rials and Seetaramée ducats in the following proportions:—

10 Mahommadees (sufed) in one silver rial.

23 ditto ditto in one ducat.

The copper currency is that of Bombay. I remained 10 days at Chabar.

29th June.—Left Chabar, and proceeded 8 kos at first over a sandy Tezcopan. soil, then over a descent, then to Kuchon and Mashek, where there is a well, and arrived at Tezcopan; the direction of the road being N.E. and E.N.E.; the whole road is a gun one, and the only difficulty is at the descent.

30th June.—Proceeded 8 kos immediately along the sea-coast over Nigwar. a good road, having water on it, which is not used for cultivation, except the water of a well at Shahans-i-Nigwar.

There heard of a gentleman who had ascended the neighbouring Captain Grant. hill some years back, and discovered a silver mine, which he concealed from the inhabitants. Leaving the sea coast, I branched inward in a N.N.E. direction to a few huts of Jatgals.

1st July.—Travelled over a level road in a S. E. direction for 5 kos to Gwatar. Gwatar; no water on the road for the last kos; the road turns to the E.S.E.

Gwatar is situated between the port of Chabar on the West, and the Boundaries. port of Gwatar on the East ; and has the district of Bakwa on the North ; the chiefs of which are Meer Gul Mahommed and Sushkaran Jatgal. The cultivation, which depends on the rain, consists of cotton, millet, juwaree, mash and peas.

The amounts of revenue in ready money is 10,000 Mahommadees ; that in kind at the rate of 1-10th, depends on the rain.

The fort belongs to Meer Sushkaran. The proceeds of the port amount to 130 rials.

Two Mahommadees the package is levied on mash of peas exported Freight and Duties. to Muscat, 2 rupees on every slave from Muscat, and $\frac{1}{2}$ rial on a dubber of ghee exported to it, the freight of a candy to which place is 4 Mahommadees, and of a dubber of ghee 2 Mahommadees.*

There is only one shop here, every thing being brought from Chabar. The fishermen pay 1-10th of the proceeds of their fisheries. The produce of the place is fish maws and fins.

2nd July.—Proceeded 10 kos to the port of Jeewaree, over a good level road without water, passing on the road the Darahoon hill and the Nihong kour, or “ whole river ;” the direction of this road varies from E. to E.N.E.

The port is a small one, having only 15 huts of people, who style Boundaries. themselves Shahzádáhs or Princes, situated between port Gwatar on the West and port Gwadar on the East, and having to the North the district of Dasht.

The principal person at the port is Mahommed. The land is extensive, but the water as well as inhabitants are scarce.

This port was one of the principal on the Mukran Coast, but was desolated in favor of Gwadar, owing to the tyranny and extortions of the governor of Kesh. Its situation is much preferable to that of Gwadar.

3rd July.—Proceeded 9 kos in an Easterly direction to the port of Peesheekan. Gwadar over a level road, passing the Kour-i-Peesheekan, and several huts of Baloches. Sometime back on this river swelling, it brought down† — containing old coins, which was found by a

* Obscure passage, owing to defective MS.—Eds.

† Illegible in MS.—Eds.

Dashter. — * The rupees were $1\frac{1}{4}$ *unedhúts* (90 grains) inweight, and even of the currency of Shah Abbás.

The port of Gwadar is bounded on the East by port Shamal; on Gwadar. the West by the Peesheekan hill; on the North by Nigwar, and on the South by a hill and the sea. This hill is a promontory or “*sunt* ;” a bay is called “*khar*,” and the even coast, “*teab*.”

Gwadar has two bays East and West. Vessels from the last anchor in the West bay, and vice versa.

Nigwar is a small village, the cultivation of which depends on the rain. There are some date trees and a well.

The port of Gwadar belongs to the Imaum of Muscat, on whose part Chief. is a resident governor, by name Walee Mahommed, an Arab. The proceeds amount to 3,500 França rials, each rial value in Bombay 2 rupees and 2 annas.

The people of Gwadar are at present much discontented with the government, on account of Walee Mahommed charging both the Gwadar and Muscat duties on vessels going direct to Basrá, carrying carpets, grain bags, mats, packages, felts, mat bags, coarse woollens called shawls, and goats' hair; because the governor says, (these ?) formerly went to Muscat. The two ports of Gwadar and Chabar formerly belonged half to the Grohkees and half to the Brahooes. The Brahooes' half was given in grant by Meer Nusseer Khan to the present Imaum's Imaum of Muscat. father, Saiyed Sultan, who took refuge at Kalat, during some convulsion of his own state. As the Brahooe state got weak and the Muscat one strong, the two former ports of Jeewaree and Pasanee were superseded by the new ones of Gwadar, Chabar, and the Gikkee; half of the latter port has also been confiscated by the Revenue. Imaum. The proceeds of last year were 4,100 rials, which exceeded the amount of the former by 1,400 rials. This increase arose from the increase in the quantity of wool exported to Bombay. The inhabitants of Gwadar are Mahdeezois and Migwarees.

The fort of Gwadar is 370 paces in circumference, and the height of Port. the walls 5 and 6 yards; within the fort is a tower of masonry in height 30 guz and in circumference 40 paces, in which are a few small ship guns. Gwadar is subject to the foray of the people of

Mand, on account of the quantity of powder and lead constantly lying at the port. The fort would always be plentifully supplied with ammunition; there is no water in the fort, and were rocks dug, salt water only could be procured. The fort of Gwadar is moreover commanded from the Sunthill, where there is plenty of water in a tank; indeed this hill was formerly built on. There is also an inscription in Cufica.

From Gwadar to Kech is 6 days' journey, to Panjgoor 12 days, to Kolwa 6 days, to Kaloch 10 kos.

There is a fruit at Gwadar, well known in Hindusthan or Khorasan, called *badam-i-surkh*, or the "red almond," which is eaten like a mangoe; the shell being thrown away. This fruit is also known at Muscat. Dates and mangoes are brought in their fresh state from Kech.

The productions of Mukran are fish maws and fins, procurable at this port, which is the outlet of the districts of Kech, Punjgoor, Kharan and Dezak.

The *ker* fish, from which the maws are procured, come in season at Ker fish. the setting of the Pleiades, and the fishermen know the spots on which to cast their nets from the great noise made by these fish at this season under water. The best fish that is salted and dried for exportation is called *mushko*, which comes into season after the ———* There is another fish called the *gor* that is much esteemed, and there is an enormous quantity of it.

This year ghee and wool were exported with great profit to Bombay, not so maws and fins.

The bazar is composed of the following shops: 2 blacksmiths, 3 shoemakers, 10 weavers, 5 carpenters, 2 tailors, and 2 Hindoo confectioners.

The principal merchant is Meerza Bholizza, son of Moolla Kechee, Merchants. who trades with a capital of 30 and 40 thousand rupees, and has agents throughout Mukran; besides him there are 50 other small merchants, 30 Hindoos and 20 Musselmans, having capital from 5 to 10 thousand rupees.

* Sic in MS.—EDS.

The following are the estimated imports to Gwadar for consumption at Mukran, or at the port:—

Iron, 50 candies,	Pepper, 20 candies,
Powder, 3 ditto,	Pedlery, 5,000 rupees,
Turmerick, 30 ditto,	Mashroo, 100 pieces,
English cloth, 5,000 rupees,	Sugar, 100 goonees,
Bengal Soosees, 1,000 pieces,	Mangroee rice, 3,000 maras from
Kandakee, 1,000 pieces,	Muscat and Kech; and in times
Dates, 5,000 packages,	of dearth, rice and juwaree from
Lead, 100 candies,	Sindh.
Silk Thread, 60 seers,	

Merchandise from Bombay can be sold at 5 per cent. above the original cost at 6 months' credit. The trade of Gwadar is monopolized by the native merchants.

An import duty is levied at the port of 3 per cent. on a Musselman's merchandise, and 4 per cent. on that of a Hindoo. This distinction is prevalent throughout the Mahomedan countries west of the Indus.

The produce of the Gwadar fisheries is taxed from kind;—that of other fisheries or importation 3 per cent. On stocking for Mukran, a tax is levied on each load of 1 Mahommadee, or "*zor*." The ducat is called *surkh* or *surk*, "red."

Merchandise to Bombay is charged on each a duty of 1 kuroosh, or rial, per candy, and a passenger 1 rupee Company's, 5 Mahommadees.

The currency is in ducats, rials, Mahommadee and Company's rupees in the following proportion: 1 ducat 28 Mahommadees in copper.

One Company's rupee is 5 Mahommadees in copper. The weight of 1 Hindoo maund, or $\frac{1}{2}$ Musselman's maund, equals 5 Company's seers.

Wool met this year with a ready sale. An American ship touched here, and purchased 450 rials' worth of wool.

During my stay at Gwadar, some European sailors, 13 in number, arrived in an open boat; they could not speak a word of any language but English, but from signs, and on referring to native charts, I made

out that they had been wrecked off the island of Khallan, while proceeding with coals to Aden. They also gave me to understand, that they had been beating about the coast of Mukran for 6 days, being afraid to land until their supply of food was exhausted, and that the people of the port had robbed them of a compass and quadrant before my arrival.

I was five days with them in Gwadar, during which time our communication was by signs, and I afforded them all the assistance in my power, and at the end of five days, put them on board a boat and forwarded them to Khaja Reuben at Muscat. They seemed very grateful for my assistance, shaking me warmly by the hand all round.

They also gave me a paper containing their statement, which (?) was afterwards forced from me, and given by the mater (?) to the Captain of the American ship who purchased the wool, to read, and who tore it up, telling the people who had the paper, that if it reached its destination it would have been prejudicial to the governor of Gwadar. I procured the ship's name from a clergyman in the ship, who was a phrenologist, but have mislaid the slip of paper on which it was written.

My attention to the sailors betrayed me as a servant of the British Government, and I became anxious to depart.

11th July.—Proceeded by boats to Gwadar, and hiring a camel, travelled 3 kos to a few huts under one Shah Kaiheera.

12th July.—Proceeded due north over a good road, but without water 10 kos to a few huts of Jatgals, where I was obliged to content myself with coarse food.

13th July.—Hired a camel for 4 rupees to take me to Kasarkund, and proceeded during the night to the town of Gul-Mahommed Jatgal, chief of Bukwa, who enquired whence I had come, and on being told from the pilgrimage, he treated me with great respect, and made me a coarse entertainment.

14th July.—Proceeded 8 kos over a level good road to——* where I succeeded in purchasing some rice.

15th July.—Proceeded all night 10 kos over a bad hilly winding road to Kasarkund.

* Uuintelligible in MS.—EDS.

16th July.—Purchasing next day after my arrival mash and some flour, started in an easterly direction 10 kos over a level road to Oshaph, containing 10 huts.

17th July.—Proceeded 10 kos through a rivulet bed to Parad, there being water at one place on the road, and found the way free (?) from Dahee, Mazab, and Afshan robbers.

Parad has to the West Kasarkund ; to the East Ferozabad ; to the North Sarboz, and to the South Bukwa.

The following are the villages of Parad : Kosolokan, Duspulakan's Villages. Jameedar, Bafónán, Petan Sahabad, Radbán, Zyurutja, Gunjabad, Hel and Balahan. The land is confined, and cultivated with the Mukran grain.

The chief is Mulla Meean Buledoi, who has no dependents ; he derives a revenue of 30 ducats and 10,000 maunds of grain.

The principal men are, Meer Shahibi Káóeen, Meer Abdullah Rustam, Meer Omar Rájáee-i-Shahi, and Durra-i-Kerazai.

The rate at which the revenue is levied varies from $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$, and is so oppressive, that most of the cultivators have fled to Bukwa.

The friend of the chief is Shah Den Mahommed of Kasarkund, Friends and Enemies. and his enemies, Bareean and Meer Ameen, and Mahommed Shah of Sib.

The fort is very small and insignificant. Twenty years ago a Persian
 Fort. detachment levied 700 ducats from the place, by means
 Persians. of a gun they had with them.

A rivulet from Surbaz passes Parad. The distance to which place is 14 kos ; to Bampoor 6 days' journey in rivulets ; to Sib 5 days via Sarbaz and Afshan, Erifshan and Narkand. During my seven days' stay at Parad, I cured Mulla Meean of the rheumatism, in return for which he offered me land, a wife, and the village of Parad, if I would settle there.

25th July.—On starting to-day was presented with a matchlock, which I sold immediately for $1\frac{1}{2}$ ducat, preferring not to assume the character of a soldier on my journey. Selling his present before his eyes, so far from offending the old gentleman, was actually his own proposal. During my stay here, it was my fortune to attend Mulla Meean's daughter, who was really the prettiest girl I had seen in Mukran ; she was subject to fainting fits.

Travelled 4 kos to the east to Ferozabad, a place containing grapes, pomegranates and mangoes in some quantity. It has to the east the Lameeman's hills, and to the south the Rosk hills.

The chief of this place is Shah Deen Mahommed of Kasarkund, which is indeed his inheritance.

The revenue is as follows :—

Ready money, 10 ducats.

Gram, 20 candies at the rate of 10.

Dates, 30 ditto ditto.

The fort is on an eminence, the walls of which on one side are 30 guz, and on another 5 guz, the circumference is 300 paces.

26th July.—Proceeded due south over a level road in a rivulet 6 kos to Rosk, the chief of which place is Meer Jan Mahommed. It is very fertile and well peopled, having 200 huts. I brought a letter of introduction from Mullá Meeán, and was nearly being detained to prescribe for my present host, had I not excused myself as having no medicines. There is a small gun here, which is only used to tie horses to.

27th July.—Proceeded 4 kos to Boftan in a E.S.E. direction, in a rivulet bed with date trees.

The place is under a son of Meer Taj Mahommed, and is very scantily cultivated on account of the nature of the country, which is hilly. Again proceeded sometimes in an E. and sometimes in a E. S. E. direction, in a rivulet bed to Pesheen 5 kos, which is a well cultivated place, under Shah Dost of Dezak, by tribe a Shahzada.

The principal men are Sahib Kadeen, Bor Meer Zaly, Mulla Noor Principal Men. Mahommed, and Poor Dil Khan, Keenajee. The former chiefs of Pesheen collected revenue from Bukwa.

28th July.—Proceeded in an Easterly, E. S. E. and S. E. direction Mand. over a level road 8 kos to Mand, which is a fertile place, containing 2 villages, Ko-oo-kan and Sorag. To the north is the Kour Nahang, which rises in the Zamoran hills.

The principal man of the place is Ghulam Mahommed, by tribe a Rindh, who with the whole of his tribe are great thieves, and much dreaded in Mukran.

The principal men are Ghulam Mahommed, Abder-i-Gaz Kandee, Principal Men. Shah Maree.i.Dakeeda, Shahdadi Abdoo, Slahoo

Kuajai, Kasim Ferozai Murad, Mullazai, Keenajee Shahabzai, Omar-i-Yusof Dadurzai, Khuddedad Murad Sowatzai, Ameer Khudadad Paluchatee, Shahdad-i-Abdee, Kohlur See, Asadulla Buzdar Khudadad Askánee, Doten Surbinmee, Murad Meerazai, and Kumal Murakzai.

These men are very independent, and say, they are originally of Kochee.

From this to Sib is a five days' journey over a mountainous road, and to Gwadar 7 days over a gun road. The maund used here equals 12 Company's seers.

30th July.—Proceeded 8 kos, at four of which crossed the Nahang Kaw over a good level road to Tump, which has to the East, Kasarabad; to the West, Mand; to the North, Pulabad, and the Zameeran hills S. E.; the South, Dosht.

The following are the villages of Tump: Jolaejee, Soedgo, Malikabad
Principal Villages. Kalat-i-Dezak, Nazarálod, Kokobád, Kourjo, Kulahoo, Peelabad, Gomazee, Malohal, Kansado, Hotjo, Kohrán, Bala Cheechá and Sorafgan; most of the dry lands are towards Nigwar. The land of Tump is fertilized by springs and *karezes*.

The chief is Malik Danai, son of Meer Dost Mahommed Gichkee, Revenue. who has 100 dependents, and collects 250 ducats in ready money, 5000 maunds of grain, and 1000 packages of dates.

The principal men are Meer Razae Hot, Meer Haibotun Hot,
Principal Men. Meer Shahoo Hot, Sher Mahommed Nigwaree; these are friendly to the chief, while the following are enemies: Kamalan Hot, Meer Brahim Hot, Meer Yoosef, Meer Ameer, Meer Afzal, and Meer Bijad Eesazais. These have retired to Peelabád, and pay no revenue. The *kotwal* of Tump is Kaim Khan.

The height of the fort walls is 8 guz and the circumference 800 paces; the height of the citadel 20 guz and the circumference 200 paces. The fort is situated on an eminence and has a small gun.

From Tump to Gwadar is 5 days' journey as follows: 1st stage Karmakan, 2d Sunta, 3d Nigwar, 4th Dardar and 5th Gwadar, which is over a good level watered road.

To Sib 6 days, over a difficult mountainous road.

There are 100 weavers, 2 shoemakers, 3 blacksmiths and 5 Hindoo traders. Here I remained 4 days with Tetga, a Hindoo, during

which time I was offered the appointment of manager to Dahlo Deenar.

4th August.—Crossing the rivulet, proceeded to Peelabad 2 kos in a Peelabad. northerly direction ; it is opposite Tump. The chief of the place, which is a fertile one, is Shah Umar-i-Meer Tangai Gichkee. Here I was warned not to advance, as the plague was raging at Kech.

5th August.—Proceeded 8 kos over a level road. To the East Nasa-Nasarabad. rabad, where I spent the night ; no one from Kech was allowed to enter here. This place has to the North the Zamaran hills.

The villages are, Nakabad, Kolanee, Noudaz, Kohdee and Shakka-Villages. han. The land is extensive, but the supply of water limited, which might be increased by a bund across the rivulet, which falls into the sea between Gwadar and Jeewaree. Tobacco is plentifully cultivated here, and is renowned throughout Mukran. The chief of the place is Meer Hosain, son of Meer Dost Mahommed, and brother to Malik Deenar of Tump.

He has 200 dependents and collects a revenue of 15 ducats, which is at the rate of 1 Mahommedee per every Davzadah, a Nakeeb (purchased slave.) The Baloochees pay no revenue in ready money. In kind, he collects 30 candies wheat, 8 candies cotton, juwaree 8 candies, and tobacco 10 in kind.

The principal men are, Omar-i-Eesa, Abdoo Meerzazai, Meer Aloo-i-Chiefs. Mura Deena, Kow Mahommed, and Dashen Panjahomlee of the tribe of Kosheedee. Meer Nasseer Khan Brahoee took this place with a loss of 700 men, which he felt, to use his own words, as the “loss of one horse shoe.”

The fort is dilapidated ; and is 250 paces in circumference and 10 guz in height.

6th August.—Proceeded over a level road 10 kos to Kech in an E.S.E. and S.E. direction, having a difficulty at one part in a rivulet on the road. At intervals were to be seen bodies of men who had died of the plague. As I advanced, my heart began gradually to fail me, as these sights became more frequent and multiplied. Kech is bounded on the East by Lamee, and Gwashtang ; on the West by Nasarabad ; on the North by hills ; and has to the South the post of Gwadar.

The villages of Shahors of Balochistan generally consist of not more than 20 huts and 1000 date trees. Those of Kech are the following: Joosak, Bug, Zorabad, Kalgaree, Soraph, Making, Komejes Iskarabad, Fakeerabad, Hujjatabad, Aleebad, Surdasht, Turbal of Dahu Mazhabs, Sooragee, Purkee, Humzaabad, Fuzilabad, Gwashtang, Kauhoor Kalat, Noken Kalat, Pooree Kalat, Gokdan, Shahkahan, Rosta, Chotoee-joe, Gazan and Bet.

The ground of Kech is limited in proportion to the inhabitants, in the waste lands the following are cultivated: barley, wheat, juwaree, cotton, rice, mash and peas.

Kech is governed by Meer Mehrab Khan of Kalat, through his Naib or deputy, Meer Fukeer Mahommed Beezanjad, son of Meer Keejara.

The revenue in ready money amounts to 12,000 Mahommepees, Revenue. 4,000 maunds grain, and 4,000 packages of dates, which is —* by the Gichkees under Shah Kosam and Meer Durra.

The principal men of Kech are, Meer Durra of Gwashtang, and Mulla Umur of Kauhoor Kalat.

The chiefs of tribes are Meer Khamalam Sungur, Meer Bahram Hot, Kamalan Dahee, Mazhab of Turbut, and Mulla Badradeen Mulla-lazeji.

The principal men of Turbut, are, Rais Gamguzar, Rais Moosa, Mulla Reuben, Mulla Eesa, Mulla Noor Mahommed, Mulla Yusuf Yacoob, Mulla Durvesh, Meer Noor Mahommed, and Meerza Mahommed Dashtee.

The governor of Kech always consults and acts in concert with Shah Kosam and Meer Durra, who have on several occasions —† the Kalat governor of Dasht and Bakwa; both formerly paid revenue, they are both now independent.

The Shahghasee collected 10 camels from the Dashtees, 200 ducats Shahghasee. from Tump, 100 ducats from Nasarabad as a fine, besides the revenue, and from Kech 400 ducats; none of which on his return to Kalat he gave Mehrab Khan credit for.

The boundary of Kech was formerly at a heap of stones, called "Cheedah i-Malik," near Kasarkund.

* Unintelligible in MS.—Eds.

† Sic in MS.—Eds.

Turbut paid no regular revenue to Kech formerly, but merely sent Turbut. a few slaves yearly direct to Kalat. The chief of this place was formerly Mulla Baieeán, now at Muscat, who had resident parties, Badrodeen and Mulla Rahmat-i-Eesa. These were ejected by the inhabitants, who themselves chose Kamalan Dashtee, the present chief.

The revenue of 4 Mahommadees per loom is levied from every weaver, and the same from every shoemaker; besides often requiring their labour free.

Were Kech blessed with a just and active governor, revenue might be collected from Jo'oo, Nandrak, Jush and Jigeen.

The Shahghasee collected during his last visit to Mukran 1500 ducats, 70 camels and 4 slaves.

When Kech was governed by the Maliks and Shahzadahs, revenue was paid to it from Kichk and Mashkar.

Mahommed Shah of Sib is an enemy of the governor of Kech, while the Panjgoorees are allies.

An import duty is levied on every load, of 1 Mahommadee, and the resident Hindoos pay a yearly sum of 4 ducats.

The fort is 2,000 paces in circumference, and the citadel or muree Fort. 600 paces. The height of the outer wall is in places 10 guz high, and in other places there is a thoroughfare. The height of the citadel walls is from 40 to 50 guz long;* the other two are dismounted, and one of iron 3 guz long. Within the citadel, near the entrance to the left, is a well.

There are two gates, one to the citadel, and one to the fort towards the east, and another to the fort towards the south. This fort might be taken by driving a mine under the southern bastion of the citadel.

The fort is situated on common earth, in which rain forms small chasms.

To the East of the fort are mat huts and a marsh (?) to the West, mud huts and date trees; to the North, mat huts and rising ground adapted for a battery; and to the South, a canal and tamarind trees and rice cultivation.

* Some omission here, evidently relating to the ordnance of the place.—Eds.

From Kech to Panjgoor is 6 days' journey for laden camels over a Roads. well-watered road, not very difficult, there being a gun road viâ Buleda, on which there is only one obstacle near Garuk, a narrow defile. To Kalat 15 days viâ Kolwa and Mashkai. To Gwadar 5 days over a level road for guns.

To Sib 7 days, over a difficult mountain road viâ Zameeran, Narhuk, Kambee, Salag, Jakookan, Gwazan, Kahrai, Bot Wakaiee, and Ispe Kahan.

The Zameeran hills in which the above stages are, extend westward Hills. to Ofshan, Erifshan, Narkund, Sarboz, Bint, Bashohard and Meerab. In the time of Meer Naseer Khan Brahooee, Meer Shah Beg Gichkee went to complain to Timoor Shah Duranee, of the exactions of Historical Anecdote. the Brahooee chief, who was then encamped at Kech. Timoor Shah gave the complainant two bailiffs, with orders to cut the tent ropes of Nasseer Khan immediately on their arrival, and make Nasseer Khan's followers carry their baggage on their backs for the first stage out of Kech. Those instructions the bailiffs performed to the letter, allowing the stage however to be at Yoosok, in the immediate neighbourhood; such was the authority of the first Duranee monarchs.

Contrary to what I heard at Panjgoor, I was here informed, that Meer Naseer Khan first gave half of the country to the Gichkees. I also heard, that the revenue of Kech once amounted to 25,000 ducats, including Mukran.

The animals of Kech are, camels, cattle, asses, sheep, goats, horses, Animals. buffaloes, and hogs without number, to prevent whose depredations, people armed with matchlocks watch their fields at night.

The birds are, bulbul, maina, shamk, turaj, and kobhs.

The fruits are mangoes, dates, grapes, mulberries, figs, peaches, limes Fruits. and lemons; of these the mangoes and dates are plentiful and good. There are also some tamarind and jamun trees. The inhabitants build with the date stem, and hem it with the gaz and kauhoor.

The productions are ghee, wool, grain and beans; the wheat is reaped at the vernal equinox, and the rice, dates, juwaree, cotton, and mangoes in July. These are consumed, with the exception of wool and ghee, which are exported to Gwadar, and cotton and tobacco and cloth manufactures to Panjgoor.

There are 1000 weavers who make shoong ashahar, soosee, lun-Bazar. gees, chadars, hufrong charuk; 40 shoemakers, 15 blacksmiths, and 12 carpenters. There are no large merchants at Kech itself. The principal reside at Turbat, and are, Painsda, a Mussulman, and Hanjoo, a Hindoo, who each trade with a capital of 5000 rupees.

On account of the exactions of the Kalat governor, most of the traders reside at Turbat.

Were it not for the extortions of the government, great profit might be made at Kech. Several merchants have formerly enriched themselves here, of which one is now alive at Karaihar; and Edevell Khan, known by the name of Moolla Keely, who used to remit his money out of the country in sweetmeat jars, covering the ducats with syrup.

The following is the estimated consumption of Kech: madder 5 Consumption. candies, indigo 40 seers, chintz 1 load, silk 5 maunds, mashroo 40 pieces, daryai 20 pieces, English cloth 1 camel load, powder and lead 5 candies, kandakee 3 loads, pepper, &c. 5 candies, pedlery 500 rupees, saltfish 300 camel loads.

The hire of a camel from Gwadar is 10 Mahommadees. From Kalat 10 rupees.

The currency is in ducats and Mahommadees. The maund equals 10 Company's seers. Agents charge one half of the profits.

Turbat is capable of great improvement, there being several *karezes* out of order that might be advantageously repaired.

At Turbat are (sects?) of Baloochees, who have peculiar religious tenets differing from those of the Koran. They call themselves Mussulmans and "*Zikarees*." While other Mahomedans, they call "*Nirnazee*," or "*Peagars*." They are called by the other Mahomedans of Baloochistan, *Dae Mazhabi*, heresy believers. They are supposed to be disciples of Hosainooddeen, called Peer Roshan

Origin. by his own disciples, and Peer Tairuk by the Sunnee Mahomedans, who propagated a new creed in the time of Akbar Padshah with the greatest success in the district of Teerai, whence he was expelled by a popular commotion of the neighbouring Sunnee tribes, aided by the governor of Cabool, and sought refuge and disciples with success among the ignorant Baloochees of Mukran.

The *zikarees* themselves say, that their saint was originally from the river Attock, that he performed the pilgrimage, and on his return, according to divine promise, and before a number of unbelievers extracted from the heart of a tree he pointed out, a written volume of their religious code. This tree is still pointed out on a rock called "Koh-i-Nuwad" by them, to the south of Turbat; the tree they call "Bai-i-Kouhoor." They will never take a false oath by this tree, under which they perform their orgies. Their saint was buried within the water (?) of Turbat, until Meer Naseer Khan, in his zeal for the orthodox faith, had the grave broken open, and the mouldering bones burnt to ashes with horses' litter. They believe that Antichrist has come.

They are very particular in paying tythes, but never pray or perform the pilgrimage. Their belief runs thus:—

"There is no God but one, and Antichrist is the light of God."

Their devotional exercise is as follows:—

They assemble in a ring every night on a level spot without the village, and seat themselves and commence their zillar or repetition, gradually warming as they advance.

They do not fast with other Mahommedans in the month of Rumzan, but fast 9 days of the month Zilhij. When they begin to get old and feel their death approaching, they go to their priest to seek for heaven, who sells it according to the riches of the applicant.

On every Monday evening they proceed to the "Koh-i-Murad," and have a repetition, (?)* and on a certain day of the year they drug themselves with intoxicating substances, and after dancing round the tree, their priest exclaims, "It is time to be gone to heaven," when they retire to promiscuous intercourse. The marriage of a couple is not considered fortunate, nor indeed lawful before the priest sanctifies the bride.

On my arrival at Kech the plague was raging at Turbat. I proceeded to the Maeree, the residence of Meer Fuqueer Mahommed Beozanjoo, and officiated as clerk† for 15 days, during which, crowds of people prayed that never prayed before. On making preparations for my departure, the Meer gave me letters of introduction on Kalwa; one for

* Sic in MS.—EDS.

† (Pêsh numaz ?)—EDS.

his uncle Husein Khan and the other for Meer Maudar of Kalwa. During this time, as the plague increased, to prevent accidents, I sent all my manuscripts to Hajee Haroon at Gwadar, directing him in case of my death, to forward them to the Honorable the Governor of Bombay.

22d August.—Left Kech and proceeded to Turbat, where I heard of Turbat. the arrival of the army at Shawl, and of Lieut. A. Burnes' visit to Kalat. Here I staid 5 days in the house of Rais Moosa. Before quitting the subject of Kech, I must not forget to mention the following national verse:—

Gib, Kasarkund and Bug.

Sarbaz with its garden and fruits,

Parad with its beautiful girls,

Are not worth one of the poplars of Kech.

28th August.—Left Turbat and proceeded 8 kos to Bazaph over a level road, supplied with water, in a S.S.E. direction.

29th August.—Proceeded 10 kos, having passed the joining of two Dadee. roads, and the river Nelak to Dadee, situated on a rivulet with date trees and water in wells, and consisting of 4 huts of Baloochees, who had not escaped the influence of the plague, which generally carried off its victim within the 12 hours. I calculated that while the plague lasted, 1,500 people died of it. The natives in their ignorance, supposed the disease to arise from a worm in the liver, for which they administered large bowls of lime water and saltpetre, and used bathing in cold water in the open air; the weather being dreadfully hot.

I consider that women died more than men, and very young children in proportion.

There was one very strong man, a grave-digger by profession, who Grave-digger. went about joking during the plague, and defying it aloud. I saw him on the day of his last exhibition; the next day after a few hours vomiting, he required in turn the office to be performed for him that he often had so blithely performed for others. Having spent the day at Dadee, started in the evening and proceeded 8 kos, sometimes in a S.W. and others in a S.S.W. direction.

30th August.—Proceeded over a tolerable road without water 3 kos Talar. S.W. to Shereenjæe, and thence S.E. 4 kos to Talar. The road from Kech to this is a gun road, but Talar itself has a narrow

defile between two hills, in which are three pools of water, the water of one of which alone is sweet. From this place two roads separate, one to the S.W. called Rah-is-Tung, the other to the left leads to Keelach.

31st August.—Proceeded 10 kos over a level road, rather stony, in a S.E. direction to Koh-i-Dada, which is very high, and may be seen from the port of Gwadar. There are plenty of deer in this mountain; it was once the refuge of the inhabitants of the plains during an invasion; and utensils are occasionally now sometimes found after a heavy fall of rain, by huntsmen.

1st September.—Proceeded over a level road through dry lands Keelach. in a S.E. direction to Keelach, and put up in the house of Mulla Mobarick, the chief. The place produces the finest riding camels in the whole of Baloochistan; they are not a separate kind, but the most promising colt is picked from the herd, and trained. The inhabitants of this place are chiefly Dace Muhzab.

2nd September.—Proceeded all night in a S.E. direction to a rivulet.

3rd September.—After spending the day at the rivulet, started to-Pasanee. wards evening, and towards morning arrived at Pasanee, from which place to Kech is 4 days' journey for guns, the only difficulty being at Nigwar, but the best gun road to Kech is from Gwadar via Dasht and Nigwar, 6 days.

The port of Pasanee is a small one dependent on Kech, and governed by Mehrab Shahoo Kalmalee,* whose deputy is Wulee Mahommed Gulshah. There are at present only a few huts of Baloochees and fishermen, who sell matting to the amount of 1,000 rupees a-year. The port is capable of great improvement.

4th September.—Leaving Pasanee, proceeded in a Easterly direction 5 kos on a level road to Gazdan, consisting of 12 huts of mat-makers.

5th September.—Proceeded 8 kos over a level road passing the Korokya. Koh-i-Kalimat, which is said to abound with sulphur, specimens of which I sent to Karokya; after the hill, a rivulet. The place contains some Baloochees and 100 date trees.

6th September.—Proceeded 10 kos over a level road without water, Harmarah. except at Pinnee to Port Harmarah, which is bounded on

the East by the river Baseel and the Koh-i.Malar; on the West by Koh-i-Wamat; on the North by the hill of Talaj-lok and Kolwar; and on the South by a hill and the sea.

The water of the port is brackish. The chief of this place is Jan Ally, son of Meer Jan Khan Sasai of Beloo, who has a resident deputy, Meer Hak Jatgal. The revenue of the port may amount to 2,000 rupees Kashanee.

The Meerwaders are enemies of the governor, while the Jatgals are friends. Many families have a call (?) on refuge at Gwadar from the extortions and tyranny of the governor of Harmarah.

The productions are ghee, wool, fish maws, fins, and matting.

The principal merchant is Tojoo, son of Aloo Satza of Myanee, who trades with a capital of 3,000 rupees.

The freight of a candy of goods to Bombay or Muscat is 2 rupees, and a duty levied of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

On mentioning my intention of going to Soumyamee by land, the people said I would certainly be robbed on the way for the clothes on my back, as the Baloochees were nearly reduced to starvation from this year's drought. I therefore sent my property by servants to Myanee by sea, and myself prepared to visit Hingulach as a Hindoo fukeer.

7th September.—Left Harmarah at night, and proceeded over a level road for 3 kos to the North, then 8 to the N.E. and E., and then 4 kos to the East to a few huts of Baloochees; passing the rivulet of Asar to a place called Mutchpee. The inhabitants are mat-makers.

8th September.—Proceeded to a pool called Sariab 5 kos in a E. S. E. direction, having no water on the road, which is a difficult one to Khomi-karan when the weather was very hot; there is a shorter road over the hills of Malán.

Proceeded to Hingol 5 kos, a rivulet called by that name was a difficult winding road.

9th September.—Proceeded 4 kos to Hingolah, or the Hindoo shrine of Mata Hinglaj. It consists of a well, the water of which at times rises up with a bubbling noise, discoloured like that of a river fresh swollen from the rains, and carrying mud in suspen-

sion; the Hindoo pilgrims, when this takes place, throw in suparee, cloves, cardamons, and cocoanuts. Should there be a delay in the rising, the pilgrims in the most abject manner call on "Mata" to give them a sight of herself, exhorting each other to reveal their sins and inwardly repent; when the water rises, they *salam* with both hands joined and throw in their offerings, which after sometime on a second rise are brought back again, when they are collected and form ingredients of large cakes, which they bake near the spot. A large number of pilgrims come from Hindusthan.

In the Hingol rivulets is found *sonmakee*, (specimen No. 6.)

10th September.—Leaving Hinglach proceeded 11 kos to Chat-i-Singola, (*chat*, meaning a well) over a level road. At 7 kos passed a rivulet. Here I found a few tents of Baloochees.

11th September.—Proceeded 5 kos to Chah-i-Por in an easterly direction, where I found huts and one Hindoo trader.

12th September.—Proceeded 6 kos to the East, over a level road to Chah-i-Kourgh, (*kourqá*, meaning weavers.) Here I found 100 huts and 80 weavers.

13th September.—Proceeded in an Easterly direction 8 kos to Myanee, over a level road with spring water on it. The road to this from Harmarah would not do for a detachment, the water being scarce.

On arriving at Nizanee, heard that my servant had gone to Karachee; getting on board a boat arrived next morning at Karachee, and put up in the Balice Sarai. During my stay of 6 days at Kurachee, Naomal offered me his services.

20th September.—Proceeded 10 kos to Habb, where there is a rivulet of the same name with a good level road. The place is excellently adapted for a cantonment.

21st September.—Proceeded 14 kos, and encountered some thieves on the road; some of whom I escaped by telling them I only preceded a Soumyanee. large cafila, and arrived in the morning at Soumyanee. The place has to the East Halb; to the West the sea; and to the South the sea. There is no cultivation, the ground being mounds of sand, and the water scanty and brackish. The population does not exceed 200. Every day fresh wells are dug.

The proceeds of the port amount to 1,12,000 Kashanee rupees. This Chief. revenue is appropriated by the Jam of Bela, by tribe a Jatgal or Susai, who has a resident deputy, Sasih Jatgal. There was formerly a fort, of which nothing remains but a gateway. There are five dismounted guns of from 2 to 3 guz in length.

There is a road from this to Scinde via Shahhalawah, and the Seoon hill was strong and unsafe (?) and well watered ; to Khwan 8 stages.

There is another road via Kurra Pass, as follows :—

1st stage a plain ; 2d stage Dakeechá ; 3d stage a plain, with water passing the Kunara hill ; 4th stage Bubb ; 5th stage Habb, where there is a rivulet ; 6th Sindany, a plain ; 8th Tandak ; 9th Mandang ; 10th Boukan, and 11th Sehwan.

The following articles of merchandise are procurable at the port : wool, ghee, oil, fish maws, fins, sesamum, barley, wheat and juwaree ; the produce of the dry lands depending on the rain. The oil is exported to Muscat.

The wool and ghee are procurable after the usual equinox, and the oil and juwaree after the rains.

There are 2 Hindoo goldsmiths, 3 dyers, 15 oil-pressers and confect-
Bazar. tioners. Chief Mahomedan merchant, Aloo-Satqa, who has a capital of 100,000 rupees. Chief Hindoo merchant, Naroomal—15 Mahomedan traders, and 25 Hindoo traders.

The following are the estimated imports : iron 60 candies, lead 60 candies, and English cloth 50,000 rupees.

Silk is imported from Karachee.

Myám may be called the port of Khorasan. I estimated the trade of Nigany at 500,000 rupees.

The currency is in Kashanee rupees, ducats, and França rials.

The maund contains 40 Company's seers. There are 3 measures, the largest weighs 8 seers, another $5\frac{1}{4}$ seers, and the third $4\frac{1}{4}$ seers. At Karachee, Bombay goods find a ready sale at 25 per cent. above the prime cost.

Brokers take exchange of 1 per cent., from both buyer and seller. Interest on money is at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum.

A tax is levied on each horse of $4\frac{1}{4}$ rupees ; the freight to Bombay of a horse, was from 10 to 15 rupees.

On every keeput of goods $1\frac{1}{2}$ rupee is levied ; on a dubber of ghee $1\frac{1}{4}$ rupee ; on madder, and raisins 3 rupees per candy.

A customs duty of 3 per cent. is levied on all merchants' import, and on goods of strangers for the Khorasan markets ; and 15 rupees the *auda* of cloth which clears Beloo.

25th September.—Proceeded 7 kos, 2 of which was over salt ground Charoon. 2 over sand, and 3 over a plain to Charoon ; a rain water pool without inhabitants, but a great number of gaz and hawk trees. This road was sometimes due North and sometimes N.EbE. In the evening again started, and proceeded over a level road to Sigoree, the Sigoree. precincts of which are cultivated by the rain. There is no water on the stage, sesamum is cultivated at this place, where there is a tank ; there are 40 shops, and provisions plentiful ; this road runs in a N.N.W. direction.

26th September.—Proceeded through artificial platforms of cultivation (bát) 5 kos to Oobated ; a rain water tank. Thence 5 kos through báts, the road sometimes running N.W., sometimes N.N.W. to Pamptee, where there is a river, but no habitations.

27th September.—Proceeded over a level road 5 kos to Nul in a N.W. and N.N.W. direction ; still at the river, whence Beloo. taking a supply of water proceeded another 5 kos to Beloo, where I was questioned regarding the cantonments at Karachee.

Beloo has to the East the Chopore mountains, which are 10 kos distant ; to the West, the Lak or Pass of Jaoo ; to the North, Walapat ; and to the South, Sigaree.

The following ports belong to Beloo : Saunyanee and Harmarah, and Villages. the following towns : Sujaree, Utl, and Tattaro. The villages of the district of Beloo : Arabhot, Deedo, Wázar, Ronjah, Moorah, Ankaree, Kinhars, Acharah and Bodara.

The chief cultivation (all with the exception of that of Tatarah) depends on the rain, it consists of juwaree, mash, peas, sesamum, rice, sugar cane and indigo. Water is not in proportion to the land and inhabitants.

The chief's title is Jam, and his tribe is called Jamot Sasai (of Sas) ; some say that originally this tribe was included in the Momborane Brahooes. He might collect 400 men, and derives a revenue of 30,000 rupees, which he has farmed out to a Hindoo, named Chándoo.

The principal men of the tribe are Changul, Ronjah, Umar, Godar, Lal Khan, Jamot Ahmud Singala, and Ajeera Bedro.

The chiefs of the Jam are Raheem Khan, son of Walee Mahommed Chiefs. Sherazee Mongal, Kareem Khan, Bizanjan Umar, Ronjah Jogee, Peskar Braheem, son of Alla Rukhya Wakeel, and Hafiz Peshawaree Cazee.

The government of the Jam is very unpopular. He is on good terms Friends. with the Khan of Kalat, with Mahommed Khan and Kamal Khan Ellazais, and with Walee Mahommed Khan Mongul.

The fort is a small dilapidated one, 100 paces in circumference, and Fort. 4 guz high. There are several dismounted guns. The gate is towards the East. The fort stands on an earthly mound. The only Persian well I saw in Baloochistan, is here.

From Baloochistan to Sindh is 10 days' journey viâ Shah Bilanur.

A tax is levied here of one rupee the load, and four rupees per horse.

From this to Kech and Panjgoor is 15 days' journey, where water is scarce. The road to Panjgoor is not a gun road, that to Kech across the Jáoo Sak is not a gun one, but that over the Maghal Sak. The Jains once invaded Kech with guns via the Maghal Sak.

The animals are camels, cattle, buffaloes, sheep, goats, asses, horses and wild sheep.

The birds are turaj, parrots and mainas. There are sugar-cane, lemons, limes, plantains and jáms.

They build with the kauhoor wood, pece, and neemb, and burn the turmeric, kauhoor and kunar.

There are 4 shoemakers, 100 weavers, 20 dyers, 7 Hindoo confect-
Bazars. tioners, 8 goldsmiths, 1 coppersmith, and 50 shops of Hindoo traders. The principal merchant is Bolaram, agent of Pretram Doss of Shikarpoor, who trades to the extent of 200,000 rupees. The hire of a camel to Soumizanee is 3 rupees.

The maund equals the Company's maund. Copper pice are here struck, and the currency is in ducats and Kashanee rupees.

To the N.N.W. of Beloo 5 kos, there are excavations in the mound. Cave. tain, which place goes by the name of Saiful Molook. To the East of Beloo in the *chappar* is a copper mine, and antimony is found here, (specimen No. 7.) Sulphur is also found in this *chappar*. To the S.W. of Beloo is the Koh-i-Mata, where *surlabs* are also found.

A tax is levied by the Jam of $1\frac{1}{4}$ rupee on every pilgrim to Hingulach.

A tax is levied at Beloo by the Monguls and Beejanjoos, nominally 7 rupees per load, but 10 and 12 rupees are paid actually, as these people bring sheep partly and other supplies, which they force merchants to purchase at their price; besides taking of any to sending the small articles of merchandize.*

The price of a camel to Kalat varies from 8 to 16 rupees, according to the demand of carriage.

A tax is levied on cultivation of /l in kind.

On arriving at Beloo, I had a private interview with the young Jam and Raheem Khan Mongul, from whom I learnt that Faiz Mahomed Babee had, by letters, been from time to time spreading reports exaggerating the opposition experienced by the army as it advanced from Candahar, and telling the Jam to be prepared in case of a reverse to attack the cantonment at Kurachee.

From Beloo the following is the road to Jaoo:—

1st stage 4 kos, over level road to the West.

2nd ditto 8 kos, over a difficult hilly road to Kumb.

3rd ditto 8 kos, to Erosee, hilly road over the Jaoo Pass.

4th ditto 8 kos, to Jaoo, consisting of dry lands inhabited by shepherds under Darya Khan and Chutta Murwarrees.

The inhabitants are Umaranees, and hold the Daée tenets. From Jaoo and Nondrah commences the district of Kolwah inhabited by Sajudees, who are great thieves, especially one Saká, who is famous throughout the country.

The best road to Jaoo leads, W.N.W. via the Maghal Pass, which joins the former road at Eron, where there is rivulet of that name, from which place to Mashkai is one stage, and to Panjgoor 8 marches. From this, Eron to Oornoch is one stage, inhabited by Beezanjoos. The principal man is Alla Dinna, who is very troublesome to caravans. From Oornoch the next stage is Peer; thence in a rivulet to Toorkabar.

2nd October.—Left Beloo in company with one Daroo, the darogah or manager of Eesa Khan Mongul, and proceeded 3 kos over a level road to Walapat due north, having to pass through jungle for the first 2 kos.

* Sic in MS.—ENDS.

3d October.—Proceeded 8 kos over a level road, sometimes in a rivulet well watered, in a North and N.N.W. direction to Keehan on the Purallee river.

4th October.—Proceeded over an ascent 10 kos over a tolerable road except for the ———* where there is a defile or tank water on the road which depends on the rain. The general direction of the road is North some of the stages. Lulor, a place not inhabited.

5th October.—Proceeded 10 kos over a level road, then hilly, and Jamak. partly in the Kanojee rivulet, and over the Meeran Kush hill and Kanojee to Jamak, with no habitations except in the neighbouring hills, where there are Mongul shepherds. The neighbourhood of this place is generally the scene of the Mongul's depredations, and of the Beezanjoos under Futteh Ally. At this stage there is water and several kenhon trees.

6th October.—Proceeded 10 kos to Toorkabar, over a level road for Toorkabar. 8 kos, where there are 2 roads; the left one very hilly, the right a better one over the Baran lake, on which there is no water, whereas there is some on the left.

Baran was the name of the man who made the road. This road in the present state is not a gun one. The greatest difficulty extends for 120 paces. Two kos before arriving at the stage, is a place called Koh-i-Bahar Khan, where a halt is sometimes made. On passing the Baran lake the climate sensibly changes, and the heat of Mukran and Beloo is at an end.

Toorkabar means the cliff of the Turk; and report says, that a Turkish courier passing this cliff in the night, was by a false step, precipitated into the rivulet below.

7th October.—Proceeded 11 kos to Wad, the first 2 over a stony, ————* thence 3 kos dry land, called Dara-kala, where the territories of the Monguls and Beezanjoo separate. Beyond Docaliata to the West, a rivulet on part of the road, where there are some *zaitoon* trees. Thence the road over a stony descent for 5 kos to Sar-i-Aph, an excellent place for a military station; one kos further is Wad.

Wad has to the East the *chappar* (range) and to the West, Mashhai.

Wad. There are two villages; that on the West of the rivulet belongs to Hindoos, and that on the East to Mussulmans.

* Sic in MS.—EDS.

The water is scarcely in proportion to the inhabitants; to the South is the kour or rivulet of Sae. Wad has decreased in prosperity on account of several successive years of drought, and the receding state of the *karez*. Half of the place belongs to Walee Mahommed Khan Mongul, and the other to Taj Mahommed Khan and Eesa Khan of the same tribe, of the division Shaezai. The latter has the greatest influence of the three, on account of his being the most hospitable. The Monguls say, they formerly numbered 18,000, they may now amount to 8,000. On arriving at Wad, the darogah spoke to Eesa Khan about Intercourse. me and my intercourse with Ruheem Khan at Beloo.

Next morning I was invited to see Eesa Khan, who put to me many questions regarding the British Government, and seemed to be much satisfied with the information I gave him. The next day Meer Eesa Khan gave me a guide to be ready to accompany me to Baghbanah, and I also learnt that Taj Mahommed Khan had started to Kalat to inform Mehrab Khan, that Eesa Khan had been holding private communication with a spy of the British Government.

11th October.—Left Wad and proceeded 5 kos over a level road in some parts stony without water, in a N.W. and N.N.W. direction.

Sungarajee. Sungarajee is a stage with no inhabitants; water in pools in a rivulet.

12th October.—Proceeded 10 kos over a road partly level and partly hilly. To the first 5 kos until arriving at the mosque of Azroo there

Stage. is no water, thence at a short distance and near the road are two quarries of yellow *zak* (specimen No. 8,) thence across a rivulet with water, the direction being N.W.; stopped at a *kahnee* in this rivulet.

13th October.—Proceeded in the rivulet to Abi Jekran. On leaving the last stage there are two roads, the left to Nol to the N.N.W.,

Abi Jekran. the other to the right N.N.E. to Ferozabad, which consists of dry lands. On a hill to the left is a lead mine, on the other side antimony is produced.

14th October.—Proceeded 6 kos to Baghbanah in a N.E. direction; Baghbanah. this place is surrounded by hills, and is subject to the Khan of Kalat, who has a resident deputy, a Shahghasee. There is a spring divided into 3 shares between the Khan of Kalat, Mahommed and Karam Khans Eltazai.

The lands of Baghbanah are divided among the chiefs; there are no ryots. Every chief has a separate village, over which he exercises sole and supreme authority. There is a measure which is in weight 4 Company's seers.

The rupees current are the Chantree and Kashanee, the former at 14, the latter at 15 annas.

On reaching Baghbanah, I heard that Taj Mahommed Mongul on his arrival at Kalat, had told the Khan, that Eesa Khan had made an acquaintance with Kumal Khan to plunder the Khan's granaries at Baghbanah, and that on hearing this, the Khan had detached his brother and Shahghasee Noor Mahommed to see the real state of things, with orders to attack these Khans if the report of their intended revolt was true; but if not, to coax them to Kalat under the pretence of holding council as to the propriety of making preparations for hostilities with the British troops, when he intended to confine them.

17th October.—Proceeded 6 kos in a retrograde direction to Abi Sekran.

18th October.—From this 8 kos to the plain of Ferozabad, to a rivulet with a pool of water in it.

19th October.—Proceeded over a winding road in a rivulet to Nal Nal. in a Northerly direction. The cultivation depends on the rain. The chief is Meer Husal Khan Bezanjoo, who is very hospitable while a guest is under his roof; but as soon as he quits him, will not hesitate to plunder him; he could collect a force of 1,000 men.

20th October.—Proceeded over a level road 4 kos in a Northerly and N.E. direction over the dry lands of Nal, to a stage with water, but no inhabitants. In the evening started, and in the morning after Gidar. travelling over a very bad road all night, arrived at Gidar, where I proceeded direct to my friend Baiee Khan; the road leading sometimes N.E., N.N.E., and sometimes North.

On the third day after leaving Gidar, being 23rd October, I Kalat. reached Kalat, when hearing of a copper mine at Anjeera, I returned and brought back (specimen No. 9.) On my return to Kalat, I put up in the house of Hajee Mosim, a courier, where I hoped to keep myself concealed, but was soon discovered by Faiz Mahommed Búbee, who suspected the object of my late tour in News. Mukran, and would have no doubt persuaded the Khan to

seize me, had I not a few days afterwards left Kalat by night, and by stealth. Notwithstanding the British troops were in possession of Cabool, and Dost Mahommed was a fugitive, still Faiz Mahommed was diligent spreading reports prejudicial to the British; one of which was, that Dost Mahommed had found a treasure of *tillas* at Khulam, and was collecting a large force, paying his troops in *tillas* at the rate that the British paid them in Company's rupees.

N.B.—I did not keep the dates during my journey, and am now bringing them up. I find a difference of 10 days, for I am certain that it was on the 23rd of October 1839 that I arrived at Shawl, after leaving Kalat. Here I was detained by the Political Agent, and I afterwards accompanied him with the British troops to Kalat, at the storming of which place I was present. I subsequently remained at Kalat with the late Lieutenant Loveday, who furnished me with a certificate, the following of which is a copy:—

“It affords me much gratification in writing this acknowledgment of the services and good conduct of Hajee Abdool Nubbee.

“He was with me at the storming of Kalat on the 13th November, 1839, and by his activity, intelligence and fidelity, has won my cordial esteem and regard. This certificate will, I trust, prove a good introduction for him to all my friends, and he need not, I think, need a better one to any one of my countrymen.”

(Signed) WILLIAM LOVEDAY, *Lieut.*

Kalat, 8th February, 1840.

Asst. Political Agent.

NOTE.—The manuscript sent to us of this interesting paper was unfortunately so imperfectly copied as to render the task of editing it far from easy. The spelling of proper names as there given has been strictly adhered to, the more so, that the variations in the nomenclature of places (v. Arrowsmith Atlas, 1835, Burnes and Pottinger (?) Survey) from that as ordinarily received is so slight, as to render their recognition no difficulty: *ex. gra.* Bampoor for *Bunpoor*; Gik for *Gaih*; Gwadar for *Gwuttur*, &c. &c. the differences are merely those of local pronunciation so common in the East, where, to cite common instances, such towns as Lucknow and Moorshedabad are commonly called even in their immediate neighbourhood *Nuclow* and *Muksoodabad*; such variations should not only be looked for, but their publication encouraged.—Eds.

*Itinerary from Yezd to Herat, from the Political Secretariat of the
Government of India.*

The distance from Yezd to Herat, is reckoned at 200 pharsacs.*

The direction of the route is N.E. as far as the town of Toon, from thence generally E. with a little Northing, if the road by Gownabad is followed; but if you pass by Birdjan, it is S.E. as far as that place, and from thence N.E. to Herat.

Caravans of camels use this route, they take from 35 to 50 days in performing it; horsemen, however, do it easily in 12 or 15 days. The road is in reality nothing more than a well-defined foot path, but as it generally passes over a level country, it could be easily traversed by wheeled carriages as far as the city of Toon. There are caravan serais at each halting place, erected by pious persons for the accommodation of Persian travellers, who go on pilgrimage to the tomb of Imaum Reza in Mushed, the capital of Khorassan. You also meet with, at certain distances, wells that have been sunk for passers-by to allay their thirst; but owing to the want of care on the part of the Government, they are almost all at the present day unfortunately filled up.

The plains to pass over are dry barren deserts, and seem from a distance like a sea of salt; of this description are those of Ali-abad, Shah-Abbas, Shiardil, and Garidj, where one meets with considerable tracts of country, the earth strongly tasting of nitre and salt; the only vegetation to be observed are a few saline plants. You have also to cross some low ranges of hills of an easy access as far as the sandy mountains, called "*Raig Shuturan*," which are about fifty pharsac N.E. of Yezd.

* The length of a pharsac, (parasung,) in this paper, must be much underrated. In a work called the Durra Muktai, its length is computed as follows:—

6 Barley corns, say $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, . . . = 1 finger's breadth doubled.

24 Fingers breadth doubled, . . . = 1 guz of 36 inches.

4,000 Guz, = 1 Mile, koh or koss.

3 Miles, = 1 Parasung, equal to 6 miles, 1 furlong and 4 yards.

But by examining the survey which accompanies this Journal, the distance from Yezd to Herat cannot be more than 400 miles, and the pharsac must be taken at 2 miles only.

You traverse the dependencies of this latter city, keeping on your right the great desert of Kabis or Kermanice, having on your left the salt desert, shewn in the present maps of Persia as being bounded by the cities of Kockon, Kayn, Seruman, Torkis, Toon and Tabos, and which the inhabitants state to be twenty-four pharsacs in length and breadth. The mountains of Bix Barrik are seen in the middle of this desert, and what is not least remarkable, is, that they are studded with villages, whose cultivated lands (sufficiently productive,) offer a pleasing contrast to the frightful wastes which surround them.

On leaving the mountains of "*Raig Shuturan*," you enter upon the eastern possessions of Khorassan, which extend as far as Herat. You first pass over the dependencies of Tubbus, which may be the *Tahren* of the Greeks; then follow those of Toon, which is no other, I presume, than the Parthanils of the ancients, and there still are the remains of tombs, which very possibly may be those of the Parthian kings: subsequently traversing the lands of Kagis, which you quit at the hills of Guisk to enter on the vast deserts, which end at Herat; the length being about forty pharsacs.

The ranges of hills which are passed during this route, are for the most part isolated, and of no great height; excepting those of Eccholan, Khanjuen, Kon and Guisk; they have a barren appearance throughout, and their want of vegetation is a strong proof of their richness in metals. It is much to be wished, that an able mineralogist would explore these countries, at every step he would make many useful discoveries. There is still a lead mine near the village of Echkidur, about six pharsacs W. of Yezd. The hill of Derind presents many traces of lead and silver ore. The earth of Posht-Badam produces some grains of gold. In the district of Toon, there is a lead mine near the village of Khok, one of copper on the other side of Khanjuer Khan, and another of silver at a place called Shia Nagree. All these mines were formerly worked, but from the oppression of the present Government which smothers all industry, they are now entirely abandoned.

I found on the surface of the earth between Buseriah and Toon, many handsome specimens of agate, above all, they are plentiful near Shia Dera.

On the range of hills near the castle of Fourk, you are still shewn the copper mines, formerly worked by Meerza Rafik Khan, the metal

from which was employed in casting several pieces of cannon, now to be seen at Birdjan.

The hills of Guisk are of a light red, which seems to prove them of a volcanic nature, and on the western side near the tomb of Sultan Ibrahim Reza, flows a moderately warm mineral spring, to which the inhabitants of the country go on pilgrimage, and drink the water for the benefit of their health. Many snakes are to be met with on this range, the bite of which is fatal.

Not far from the ruins of Gazun, is a stream, the water of which has a strong *acid* taste, near to Tubbus is another of a corroding nature.

Upon all the ranges of hills which extend from Batal to Herat, the people of the country gather a sort of gum called "*terendjebin*," of which the Persian medical practitioners make great use: it exudes from a small thorny shrub which grows in tufts, and which resembles the plant the camels are so fond of. The flower is whitish, like that of the lettuce, which on dropping off, gives place to a milky substance that congeals into yellow drops, which is the gum. For the purpose of collecting it, the inhabitants first cut the bush, allow it to dry, and then sift it. This plant grows wild in most of these sterile plains.

The greatest quantity of this gum is gathered in the district of Engoonzik, where also is found the *asafœtida*; the plant which produces the latter, grows in almost all these hills, particularly those of Kelmond, Tabas and Khiliki; and those which extend to the West of Herat. The plant grows to two or three feet high, the stem is straight, and resembles very much the coarse fennel of Corsica, it has thick roots, which extend to a considerable distance. To extract the *asafœtida*, it is necessary, in spring time, to cut the stem close to the earth to prevent its shooting, when during this season, a milky gum flows from it, which becomes hard. Every night this is removed with the blade of a knife, and every ten or twelve days a fresh incision is made to allow the gum to flow freely. Those who follow this avocation, take the precaution to cover the plants, to preserve them from the heat of the sun. It is sold to the Hindoos of Herat, who send it on to India, where it is much used in cooking.

In addition to these two plants, many are found in the hills, said to possess medicinal properties, and annually collected by the druggists of the country.

The only wild animals to be found in the hills are wolves, antelopes, a few hares, and some partridges; bears are rarely seen; it is only towards the hills of Guisk, that traces of them are to be met with. We killed two enormous ones near the salt spring of Kaband. On this route, you come upon troops of wild asses that abound in Seistan. This beast is much smaller than the horse, resembles in form the domestic ass, from which it differs only in the colour of its hair, which is reddish. Its speed is great, and they are long-winded, seldom allowing itself to be approached sufficiently near to be shot; the Affghans are fond of its flesh.

Amongst the very few trees to be seen near the hamlets, there is a bush in the district of Gosk, that produces the *zerisk*, which the Persians are so fond of in their pilau. The tree is like the pomegranate, its branches in September are adorned with scarlet berries, which have a pleasing effect.

The whole country which extends from Yezd to Herat is subject from May to October, to violent gales of wind. The heat is suffocating in summer; during this season, you are also exposed to the hot wind of the desert, but which in this country is not of a fatal nature. It rains in March, April and December; it snows a little in winter. Notwithstanding that there are two crops annually, the produce is barely sufficient for consumption.

What is most remarkable during this fatiguing journey, is the total absence of any natural streams of water; here and there are a few springs in a *karez** which are often brackish, and do not allay the traveller's thirst; and what does flow from them barely suffices to water a few acres of ground, and for which purpose, the inhabitants keep it in reservoirs that are only opened two or three times a day, and distributed with great care. Their miserable-looking dwelling places take off but little in appearance from the frightful sterility of the country; a small patch of verdure only distinguishing them at a distance. The people are generally sedentary in their habits, but you meet with some wandering tribes, such as Shronदानes, the Kazunees, the Bani Kazals, Beni-Assad and Beni-Kafodzes, who inhabit the lands of Tobaz and Toon. Towards the dependencies of Kayin, are the Falohies, the Shah-

* An aqueduct which brings the melted snow, or a spring from the hills.

bis, the Heeroonees, the Yakoobees, and the Elabousails; all these tribes are of Arabic origin. A great many are colonies settled by Shah-Abbas, others of the time of Tamerlane, who, on his return from his conquests, established them in this country. These Arabs have neither preserved the customs or manners of their ancestors, except that of living in tents; they have even forgotten all traces of the language; all their wealth consists in cattle. They possess a greater mildness of manner than the inhabitants of the villages; the latter give themselves up without exertion to their miserable lot, cultivating only a few acres of land, the produce of which hardly suffices to exist upon.

In place of cultivating much, the inhabitants pass their time in spinning wool, consequently they are often subject to famine; besides being plundered by the Turkoman and Beloochees. Their fields produce wheat, barley, radishes, beet, and oil of sesamum. From a want of grain, forage and water, it would be impossible for an army to march through this country: consequently, from time immemorial, there are only two instances of this having been done. Shah-Abbas was the first who had the hardihood to do so, with a portion of his troops on his return from the conquest of Candahar. This great monarch astonished at the sterility of the sandy mountains, and the dangers which travellers were put to, halted and directed wells to be sunk, besides building small pyramids at certain distances as guides across this country of moving sand, the passage of which is so dangerous. The inhabitants of Robad still point out an elevated spot where this restorer of his country pitched his tent, and from whence he was delighted to watch the progress of his works. Most of the wells and caravanseries from Yezd to Toon, owe their existence to him. The sand hills are formed by violent gales, which blow in this country at certain periods, and which continually heap up the sand of the desert against the sides of these low ranges. They extend from N.W. to S.E. This route is a point of communication between the great salt desert and that of Kobis, and by which Meer Mahommed ventured in 1722, with a horde of Affghans, when he dethroned Shah Sultan Hussein, king of Persia.

This route since 1812, has become very dangerous for caravans, on account of the gangs of Beloochees that lay wait to plunder them. Since that time, the pillage collected by these marauders, has amounted to immense sums: often, on finding nothing to capture on this route,

they have extended their incursions as far as Kerman, Isfahan and Kochan, but with little success; many of their company being killed. As soon as one has collected sufficient plunder, he returns, and his place is filled by another. To arrive at these places, they traverse the desert of Kobis on the backs of camels, often making from twenty to thirty pharsacs a day. The gangs are never less than thirty, and seldom amount to one hundred men; the greater part of them are under a chief called Khan Dijun, who lives in the fortress of Shaknapoor, on the borders of Seistan; he it is, who sends them on these expeditions, and receives one-third of their booty as his share. These ferocious fellows have a sunburnt complexion, their dress consists of a long cotton frock wound round the waist, with a thong of camel's hide; their heads enveloped in turbans. They shave part of the upper lip, leaving only the end of their mustachios, and allow two long locks of hair to fall on each side of the face, which reach to their shoulders. When they visit these sandy mountains, they halt and encamp at Shia Bactiara, or rather near the source of a spring, about two pharsacs to the right of the road which leads to Choutoran; here they leave their camels, and advance upon the road on foot to attack the caravans; they lay in ambush in all places, but the principal spot is in a defile near Godin Komber, to the N. of the sand hills. The Beloochees hiding themselves behind the heights, allow the caravans to enter the defile, when possessing themselves of both outlets, they pounce upon their prey, sword in hand; those who make the least resistance, are sure to be massacred without pity. By their unheard-of cruelties, they have made themselves so much feared, that twenty or thirty of them have been known to plunder a caravan of two hundred persons with impunity, the great part of them armed. The murders they have committed, are without number. The most dreadful took place in 1823, when they put to death a hundred or more pilgrims going to pay their devotions to the tombs at Mushed. There is still to be seen near the third pyramid, a heap of the remains of these unfortunate creatures, as a warning to other travellers. At the time we passed, we saw the bodies of five persons that had recently been murdered, and their assassins were encamped at Shia-Bactiara as we passed, but as they were few in number, they were afraid to attack our caravan, which was a strong one; we were well armed, besides having an escort with us. A detachment belonging to them, six in number, re-

turning from a plundering excursion, fell in by mistake with our advance guard and were sabred; two of them that were not killed, were taken on to Robad Khan, where they were tied to a tree, and shot. The people of the village that witnessed their execution, shewed signs of discontent, but they were not attended to; this makes me believe, that they are in league with the Beloochees, and that it is from them, the latter purchase their provisions whenever they are obliged to stay any time here, to wait for a favourable opportunity of attack; and what confirms me in this idea, is, that they never plunder on the lands belonging to Robad Khan, whilst there is no sort of violence that they have not committed on those of Sogan and Posht-Badam.

The governor of the country, who has every means in his power to put a stop to this pillaging, makes no attempt to do so, beyond going through the form of having a detachment of cavalry at Robad, with orders from time to time to patrol as far as the sand hills. One is equally astonished to find that the Prince at Yezd allows his territory to be plundered with impunity. Those in power, that he has placed at Kharom Sogan and other places, are more to gather a tax from those that pass by than any thing else. The only precaution they take, is to prevent a caravan from going on when they hear that the Beloochees are out plundering; for this purpose they have videttes posted on the highest places, who by signs of fires, warn the inhabitants to take to their villages. Under a better administration, it would be easy to put a stop to this rapine; detachments of cavalry posted at the most dangerous places, would preserve the tranquillity of the country, and protect travellers, who now, during this fatiguing journey, are always in fear and inquietude.

This danger is not the only one to be feared during this march; one is also exposed to that of meeting with Turkomans, which is still more terrible, as in case you fall into their hands, you are carried off to slavery. The Turkomans, who are addicted to plundering, are generally of the Imak tribe, the chief of whom lives at a place called Meimaneh, about eight days' march from Herat. From time immemorial, their hordes have been in the habit of plundering with impunity both Khorassan and Herat, without the princes at the head of these provinces being able to oppose them; their incursions are rapid and unexpected; they plunder all that they encounter, and carry into slavery, men, wo-

men and children, that are subsequently sold at Bokhara. It is not only the prospect of plunder which induces them to undertake these forays, but also the desire to satisfy their hatred to the Persians; being Soonees, they believe they are performing a meritorious action in the eyes of the Prophet in taking the Persians into slavery, and in obliging them to abandon the sect of Seeahs to which they belong, to adopt their own. The dangers from the Turkomans commence on the territory of Koon, and only finish at the gates of Herat; the worst part is between Kain and Kauf. To avoid this part, our caravan conductor took another route more to the South, and which led through the district of Birdjan, but this precaution nearly proved fatal to us, for about three days' journey before reaching Herat, we were attacked by a band of Beloochees, that were only driven off by an obstinate resistance on our part.

The inhabitants of these countries have neither security or repose, the poor wretches in cultivating their land are always kept in a state of alarm, and often obliged to abandon the fruits of their labour, that they may not fall into the hands of the Turkomans. To live in some sort of security, they are forced to build small watch towers in their fields, to which they fly in case of pressing danger, which can only be entered by ladder. Not a family to be met with, but has to complain of one of its members being carried off into slavery by the Turkomans; but what is surprizing to learn is, that those who have been so taken away, make no exertion to return to their native land, on the contrary they write to their friends, that finding themselves comfortably settled, it would be madness on their part to make any sacrifices in attempting to restore them to liberty; some of them even act as guides to the Turkomans on their expeditions. At the time we travelled this route, the greatest ravages were being committed by them. The district of Herat was so infested, that Prince Kamran was obliged to seek the alliance of the Prince of Khorassan for them, in common cause, to attempt to put down so great a scourge. To avoid this danger, I parted from the caravan at Sedik, and went to Birdjan to see if I could not procure an escort from the governor, whom I had known well at the Persian court at Tehran. He was astonished to see me, received me with great kindness, and loaded me with presents. I learnt from him, that Mr. Oms, who had left the Persian service in 1824 to go on to India, had

been arrested by his people, stripped of his effects, and confined in the citadel at Fourk, from whence he had contrived to escape. So different was the treatment I received, that I appreciated the advantage of acquaintances in a strange land. The Khan furnished me with an escort of cavalry, which I sent to my friend and fellow-traveller Avitabile, and who directed the march of the caravan upon Avaz, passing by the stages of Dijisk, Gosk, and Nahkop; as for myself, I followed the road by Fourk, accompanied by a son of the governor, who did not separate from me until we arrived at Avaz. In passing by Fourk he took me to see the copper mine that his forefathers discovered, the metal from which was used in casting some guns that are now in the castle of that place.

On our arrival at Herat, we found the province exposed to civil war. Prince Kamran having in the month of April 1826, driven out his father Mahomed Shah, two parties declared themselves, and urged a furious war; the king with the assistance of Boonia Khan, at the head of the Azeris besieged the fort of Herat during the month of June, but the desertion of some of his troops obliged him to fall back upon Farrab, from whence he was taking fresh measures to drive his son from this province. These preparations obliged Kamran to seek an alliance with Hoosain Ali Mirza, Prince of Khorassan, who flattered by this submission on the part of one, who, up to this time, refused to acknowledge his authority, and foreseeing the advantages to be gained to himself, sent to his support six thousand men and four guns, under his own son Orghan Mirza. Their united forces were encamped on the banks of the Morgab, with the intention of opposing the Khan of Meimaneh, who was coming to the support of Mahomed Shah.

The city of Herat, which is no other than Aria of the Greeks, was, it is said, built by Alexander the Great. The inhabitants state, that the plain upon which it now stands, was formerly a lake formed by the waters of the Heri, and kept in by the range of hills called Senjer D'jun, through which Alexander having cut a passage for the water to flow, the plain was left dry, and the beauty of the country induced him to found this city; one thing is certain, that the castle situated about six pharsacs to the East of Herat, was built by this conqueror.

The city of Herat is small, and enclosed in a high wall built of mud, flanked by towers falling in ruins, surrounded by a deep and broad ditch always full of water. The city contains about six thousand houses,

twenty caravanseries, thirty public baths, four bazars, six colleges, and the Prince's palace, which may be considered its castle. There is nothing remarkable to be seen but the palace of Ibrahim Khan D'Janshid, and a large and deep cistern, which supplies the greater part of the population with water, it is filled by an underground aqueduct (*karez*,) which comes from the hills. The population amounts to about forty thousand souls, about two-thirds of whom are Persians, the rest Affghans. The commerce, which is carried on with Bokhara, Kandahar, Mushed and Yezd, attracts a great many strangers to it. Its productions are silk and cotton. It was pillaged by D'Jengkis Khan in the year of the Hegira 619, and again by Tamerlane, whose descendants for a long time made it their residence. This city gave birth to the celebrated historian Khondemir, author of an abridged Universal History, also to the poet D'jaim, who flourished during the reign of Sultan Hussein of Bokara, of the race of Tamerlane, and to whom he dedicated his "*Bahoristan*." The environs of Herat are exceedingly agreeable. Among other places, are the country seats of Takli, Sofer, Goozerja, and the garden of Shahzada Mulik Kossoura, which are situated to the N.E. of the city. On this same side is also the famous mosque of Moossa Hola, which is close to the royal garden; such an edifice is rarely to be met with in Persia. It is now in ruins; it has six minarets and a large college, and what remains, is sufficient to shew, that its architecture, though simple, was elegant and well adapted to the climate. The richness of the ceilings and domes are surprising; the walls for the most part are Mosaic, built of glazed bricks, which, from their embellishments, present an agreeable appearance to the eye; the minarets above all, from their lightness and height to which they have been erected, are most pleasing to behold. One of these has inclination towards the tomb of Imam Reza in Mushed, which the over-religious ascribe to a miracle, and which is shewn with great display to travellers. This superb edifice was erected by Sultan Hussein Mirza Bairam, at the entreaty of his favorite slave Goher Shah, regarding which, the inhabitants tell a marvellous tale; others give the credit of building it to Gaist-uddeen of the Gawridean dynasty; it was destroyed by the Tartars of D'Jenghis Khan.

Not far from Gowzherab, upon the hills near where this garden is situated, is a ruby mine, which was formerly worked, but has since been abandoned in consequence of these precious stones being latterly found

full of very minute holes, which took so much from their value ; further to the East on the same range is a lead mine, which Prince Kamran works on his own account. The mountains which extend to the North are said to be wooded, and among many kinds of trees, is to be found the pistachio and other fruit trees in a wild state. The druggists also gather many herbs from these hills, and the dyers also find seeds and roots which they use with advantage in dyeing their clothes, and in which they excel us Europeans. The valley of Herat is of a fertility seldom to be met with in Asia. In approaching it, the richness of its enclosures and the number of villages, gladden the traveller's sight after the fatiguing journey he has to make over barren deserts to reach it. It must be about four pharsacs in breadth from N. to S., and about thirty from E. to W. The inhabitants are calculated to possess twelve thousand pair of bullocks for agricultural purposes ; the fruits are in great numbers and excellent, they reckon as high as thirty-two kinds of grapes, of which the best are the Kaye Goramun and the Resil Baba. I observed that the vine was cultivated in a manner peculiar to this place. The country is everywhere intersected by canals fed by the Heri river, which almost leave the latter dry. The principal one is called the Eedzil canal, which passing by the royal garden, fills the ditch of the fort. The Heri river has its source in the hills to the E., its course is to the W., and loses itself in the desert which stretches to the N. of Khorassan ; it is therefore a mistake in some geographers making it discharge itself in the Zeri lake. It is crossed by a bridge called the *Poolmalan* to go to Candahar ; on the Mushed road it is crossed several times.

The city of Herat from the time of Nadir Shah has always been an "apple of discord" between the Persians and the Affghans, who have disputed each other's right to it by sanguinary wars, the latter having almost always the advantage. In 1818, the Persians wishing to take advantage of the troubles which then existed in Affganistan, did their utmost to reconquer it ; in consequence a battle took place at Kafir Kala, where the Persians, although victorious, were obliged to give up the attempt. Since that time it has remained with the Affghans, who have not been molested, from the frequent insurrections in Khorassan keeping the Persian troops in check. Soon after this, the Barukzyes having de-throned Mahomed Shah, this city only and its dependencies remained the property of this unfortunate king, who had again the weakness to

allow himself to be despoiled of this by his son Kamran Shah, who now governs it. This prince nearly 50 years of age, is brave and full of courage, of a determined mind and great activity; there is no means that he does not use to attempt the recovery of his father's kingdom, but the want of money obliges him to wait until Providence offers a more favorable opportunity. It might, however, not be a difficult task for him to accomplish, considering that the Barukzye chiefs do not act in concert, and even make war between themselves; and further, their rule is so selfish, that all the tribes are disgusted with their avarice, and ripe for revolt.

The city of Herat is capable of being better fortified. This place, in the hands of Persia, would, from its geographical position, have a great influence over any expedition sent from Russia in the direction of India as an ally. It would keep in awe the people of Bokhara, Balk and Kandahar, and by preserving its communication with the rear, permit it to advance without fear to conquest, but occupied by an enemy, it could cause insurmountable obstacles.*

From Herat to Cabool, via Candahar.

On leaving Herat, two routes present themselves leading to Cabool, one by the Huzaree country which does not take more than eight or ten days, the other is that of Candahar which is much more circuitous. Our anxiety to reach the end of our journey made us incline to follow the first, but after taking the opinion of merchants, we were obliged to give up our intention of following that route, not only on account of the roads being so bad in this mountainous country, but also from the dangers to be run from the oppressive conduct of those who govern it, towards travellers passing through; we therefore gave the preference to that by Candahar. This latter route passes along the western side of the Firooz Khan chain of mountains, which extend as far as Candahar, dividing Seistan from the province of Gawz, and the distance about one hundred and twenty-five pharsacs; it is almost entirely over open plains, occasionally crossing low ranges of hills, which are in no way difficult for guns to traverse. The only inconvenience that troops would find on this road, is, that it is thinly inhabited, and but few sup-

This view of a political position some as existing some years ago in a country with which we have since had so much to do is by no means distribute of utropection interest.—Eds.

plies to be had, besides the want of water at some of the usual stages, which would oblige them at times to make double marches; supplies could be drawn from Furrah and Goriskh. The caravans that use this road are composed of camels, rarely are mules to be met with: they pay a tax of three sequins, and horses six, with a present to the conductor of the caravan; camels generally travel the distance in twenty five-days, horses in eight, or at most ten. The latter march day and night, and only halt during the time necessary to rest their laden beasts; they commence to march generally at mid-day, and do not halt until midnight. They always rest at places some distance off the road, to avoid any thieves that may be abroad. At day break they are again in motion to arrive at the next stage about two or three hours after-sun rise; here some hasten to get a little rest, while others are employed in cooking and giving their horses a feed; at 12 in the day they again are in motion, and continue the same time as the preceding day. This manner of travelling is slow, and most tiresome for a person who is not accustomed to it. Before commencing our journey, we laid aside our Persian costume to assume that of the Affghans; this precaution was indispensable, as the latter being Soonees and detesting the Persians, we should have been constantly in trouble. The better to deceive them, we had our beards and mustachios fashioned after theirs, and during the whole of the journey, we conformed to their ways.

We left Herat the 1st of October 1826, our first halt was at a caravanserai of Shahabad, which is, after passing the defile called Mir Dood; in passing through which, I was imprudent enough to separate from the caravan, and my friend Avitable and myself would most assuredly have been assassinated by some of the Noorzye tribe, who inhabited these hills, had we not owed our escape to the fleetness of our Arabs. It is in these gorges, that commences the lower range of the Ferauz Khan mountains, its direction is from N.W. to S.E., they are not however, to be compared in height to those which extend further to the N. The most elevated spot is called Firoug, from whence branch off two ranges, that of Karek and Kosserman, which run towards the W. These valleys are some of them cultivated, and others not. They are inhabited by pastoral people, who live in tents, and who generally encamp near the source or by the side of a rivulet; they communicate by a number of paths accessible to horsemen.

On quitting Shahabad, we left the high road to the right, and took a cross route ; the reason which induced our guide to this, was, that he wished to avoid the troops of Mahomed Shah, which were encamped in the plain beyond, and who were committing dreadful ravages. The country we passed over was very hilly, it was intersected by two small streams, the Ghag and Adreska, which coming from the N.E., are said to fall into that of Furrah. At the time of our crossing them, they were nearly dry, but at the melting of the snow, they swell to that size, that the caravans are often obliged to halt for many days. This country was covered with the wild pistachio, which in autumn, is covered with a rich fruit. This tree seems to flourish best in barren spots, it gives forth a quantity of gum in white drops, of which the people make no use. They gather the fruit, which they take as a stomachic. After making two marches, we descended into the plain of Dowlutabad, debouching from the Korek chain of hills by rather a difficult descent ; more to the West, there is a much easier descent, by which goes the high road leading to Furrah, the birth-place of the famous Rustam, the Hercules of Persia, and who is so often made mention of in the Shah-Namah of Firdousee. The plain upon which this place stands, is, for the most part uncultivated, if we except its immediate environs ; it is intersected from E. to W. by a small river, which, having its source in the Firouz Khan mountains, passes through a part of Seistan, and finally empties itself in the lake of Zeri, or may be the Aria-polos of the ancients. I presume, that this river is no other than the Pharnacotes of the Greeks, and that the city of Furrah is the Phra of antiquity. At the time we crossed this river, it had but little water in it, but in spring, it is said to be full and rapid ; the bed is pebbly, and its banks covered with tents inhabited by Noorzyses. On quitting this plain, we left the high road to the left, to follow a by-path, which led through a pass called Rindzye Endgoust ; a terrible road for our poor-laden beasts, and bad enough for those on foot. This defile is remarkable on its eastern side for having its entrance like a gateway, formed by two enormous rocks ; a small stream which rises here, gives a picturesque appearance to the place. The high road leads through the Kasserman pass, about six pharsacs higher up, and which is in no way difficult. From this we entered upon an extensive plain, opening as far as the eye could reach towards the South, through the middle of which was running a small stream, called the Ibrahim, and

which waters the lands of Bakora, an isolated village. The plain was covered with hares, antelopes and wild asses ; this last species of quadruped, is always in herds. In the middle of the plain, stands a small hill called Kou-Doug ; passing to the North, we found ourselves attacked, without warning, by a band of Beloochees, some on horseback and others riding upon camels. They succeeded in carrying six beasts that were laden from the rear of the caravan ; during this time we rallied and opposed them, but continued moving on with our ranks well closed up ; returning to the attack, they made another attempt to overpower us, but a volley that we discharged, obliged them to retire, and permit us to continue our route unmolested, which we did as far as the Kostraud river. From thence we entered again into the passes of this hilly country, moving with the greatest caution, for fear of encountering more Beloochees, but happily we met with no more disasters. Our next stage was at the village of Vorachenk, which is encircled by a mud wall, it is inhabited by Noorzyes, who have the character of being very expert thieves : they are in the habit, like the rest of the Affghans, of collecting and mixing with the caravans, under the pretext of seeking for news, and committing every sort of pilfering ; it is necessary, therefore, for travellers to keep a sharp look-out, or they are sure to be plundered : the country which extends to the N. of this village, is neither cultivated nor inhabited. The river Kosh-Zaub passes through it, coming from the N., and which is no other than a strong torrent, which, at the time we crossed it, was nearly dry ; in these hills, according to Kondemir, lived the noted impostor Hakim-ben-Hasheen, who, from natural causes, produced effects, which astonished the inhabitants of these countries, and who looked upon him as a man inspired.

On leaving Vorachenk, we descended through a mountainous country into the plain of Sar, inhabited by the tribe of Subjezyes, having always in sight the Dohar hills, which forms part of the Ferouz Khan range, and which are inhabited by Alizyes. This country of Dohosi may very possibly be Dat, where Alexander passed through after having defeated the Scythians. From this, we moved upon Girisk ; in approaching this town, a great change for the better was observed ; in the surrounding country, we saw a district well cultivated and watered by the Helmund river ; this river has its source in the province of Gour, entering on the low country through the Dohar hills, it runs here from the N.E. to

S.W., but lower down to the West, passing through Seistan, and eventually losing itself in the Zeri lake. On leaving the hills, the Helmund is a rapid stream, and having very confined banks, it is subject to overflows. During some time in 1825 this occurred, when it swept away more than ten thousand tents, including inhabitants and their flocks that were encamped upon its banks. The water is very clear from passing over a gravelly bottom, excepting during the rainy season it is fordable in some places; the best is that by which we crossed, and which is about three miles above Girisk: it is known from there being a number of high poplar trees close upon the left bank. Here the river divides into three branches; the eastern one of which is deepest. Artillery might cross over, but not without unloading the waggons. It is surprising that there are no ferry boats, considering it would not be difficult to construct them, as the neighbouring hills would furnish sufficient wood, but the Affghans have not sufficient foresight to see the utility of it.

Girisk is a good sized place, situated about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile from the Helmund, but which formerly washed its walls, the intervening space being now rice fields; it is defended by a fort, on an elevated site, and which commands it; it is of no great strength, and could offer no resistance to Artillery; the side which faces to the East, is on level ground, but the other three has it much broken, and by taking advantage of the ravines, they can be approached to a very short distance; in addition to which the fort might be mined. It was built by Peerdil Khan, one of the present rulers of Candahar; it is the principal seat of the Barikzyes, who inhabit the banks of the Helmund: this tribe has become the most powerful in Affghanistan; its chiefs having dethroned Mahomed Shah, have divided amongst themselves the provinces of the kingdom, which they rule despotically, and live in a perfect state of independence. Here we were subject to a most rigorous examination; the people of the custom house actually searching us to the very skin, and for every sequin found on us taking at the rate of five per cent. and every laden animal was taxed at two sequins, the vagabonds practising every kind of fraud to impose upon the merchants, and even confiscating a part of their wares. From Girisk to Candahar it is not more than 20 pharsacs; the road is generally over a very barren soil; the Firaz mountains are still in sight, and which here join the Shah Macesoond mountains, from

these latter two other ridges branch off to the S.W., which enclose the district of Maevend, famous for its fruits, and above all, the pomegranate. On reaching Koosh-Nakout, we found ourselves upon a spot, which was admirably calculated to defend the city of Candahar on the West. From this is visible the Arghanab river, running to the West, and which empties itself into the Helmund about four pharsacs below Girisk. The country which extends to the South, is covered with sandy hillocks for about forty pharsacs as far as Neski and Karon, situated in Beloochistan, and from whence the Candaharians procure camels and dates. The right bank of this river shews many rich villages; the principal are, Lenguissar, Kolk, and Pachemour. On examining the course of the Arghanab, I could not fail to remark the great error into which Danville has fallen, in making a pretended river rise at Candahar, to which he gives an eastern course, eventually falling into the Indus. Foster has likewise given to this river a false direction.

I observed, that all the rivers which are in this province, such as the Arghandab, the Turnuk, the Arkassan, and the Doree, pass to the West, and discharge their waters into the Helmund. I presume the Arghandab is no other than the Arachotus of the Greeks, because they say, it fell into a lake; its source is at the Goolkoo mountain, in the district of Naoor.

After having forded the Arghandab, we entered the plain of Candahar through the pass of Chehul Zenee, so called from forty steps which lead to a grotto, situated at the end of a hill close to the right, and which the Affghans say, were excavated by a descendant of Tamerlane. This point also presents an admirable defence to the city of Candahar; the numerous canals which intersect it would be difficult to pass. There is still to be seen the ruins of a small fort, which formerly defended this entrance. From the end of the hill, the view is most picturesque, on one side you have below you a superb valley, covered with meadows and gardens, and on the other the vast plain of Candahar; nature has here been prodigal, the water of the Arghanab, fertilising the country by innumerable canals, the principal of which are the Noodseezan and Patab, the last, before reaching the city, passes by the village of Shah Dooteran, and is full of grains of mica.

The city of Candahar was built by Ahmed Shah; in the construction of its buildings which in general are of no solidity, and with little taste,

it is easy to see that they were erected in haste, and without any ornament. Two principal streets run through it, crossing each other at right angles, and meeting in the centre of the town, which is called the *Chir Son*, over which is a lofty dome, from whence the streets face the four cardinal points ; they are broad, and are intended to have been grand bazars, but have never been completed, and in their places have been built miserable huts. The only building in Candahar worth noticing, is the tomb of Ahmed Shah, which is surmounted by a handsome octangular dome ; the garden that surrounded it, has been entirely neglected.

The population of this city may be reckoned at twenty-five thousand souls, composed of Affghans, Persians, Beloochees, and Hindoos ; who are distinguished from each other by the form of their head-dress ; the first are most numerous. I observed that the females are kept more secluded than in Persia. It is very rare to encounter women in the streets ; those that go abroad, are of a tribe that practice medicine, and bleed the sick. Among the crowds that are seen in the bazars, are many half-witted creatures, that are perfectly naked, and whom the Affghans treat with great consideration, considering them to be inspired by God. They are called Houlliads, that is to say, Saints ; at their death, tombs are built over them, which eventually become places of pilgrimage to the people of the country ; this is why so many places of this kind are to be met, particularly at Candahar. The principal ones are those of Shah Masesond, Baba-Wallee and Huzrutgee, the first is about ten pharsacs to the North, upon the range of hills which bears the same name. They there find small yellow stones, transparent and like amber, with which chaplets are made, and are in great request among the Affghans ; other colours are found, but not of so fine a water as the first. Candahar is not commanded from any point ; it has a wall for defence flanked by towers, and in pretty good order, but which could offer little resistance to artillery. The ditch which encircles it, is not deep ; it is filled from the Patab canal, which would be easy to turn in another direction by a besieging army, and thereby reduce the inhabitants to their wells, of which there are very few within the town. The ancient city is situated close under the eastern side of a hill, which bounds the plain of Candahar to the west. The remains of the citadel are still to be seen from some distance ; it is now entirely in ruins, and deserted, Nadir Shah having destroyed it. There is to be seen at the

end of the hill the small fort Kola-took, from whence this monarch battered it with his artillery. The siege lasted six months, and would have continued longer, but that the daughter of Shah Hossain betrayed and delivered the fort into Nadir's hands, who, as the price of her crime, had her quartered in the presence of her father. From this fort a number of walls for defence branch off, and continue to the foot of the hill, and which were built to resist the attacks of the Persians. It is supposed that this city is that which Alexander built in Arachosia.

The city Nadir Shah built, is about three miles south of Candahar, and is now also in ruins. The ground of Candahar is very rich, and well adapted for the growth of vines, which is not however sufficiently cultivated, and much less than at Herat; its principal productions are wheat, barley, tobacco, and madder: they also grow maize, peas, beans and oil of sessamum. The banks of the Arghandab are studded with orchards which produce a great quantity of fruit, above all, pomegranates, mulberries, apples, plums and apricots; this abundance would allow of an army halting here for many months; they are all remarkably cheap. Spring is the pleasantest time at Candahar, the heat is great in summer, and above all, when there is a southerly wind. It is remarked, that it only snows here about once in seven years; the climate is considered healthy, excepting in autumn, when fevers are very common.

Amongst the several tribes that inhabit this country, the Barikzyes are the most powerful; then the Achikzyes; and after them the Populzyes. The first reside in villages, and the others are nomads, the riches of the latter consisting in their sheep and camels.

The true character of the Affghan is better observed at Candahar than at Herat, Cabool or Peshawur, as in the three last places, the number of strangers mixed with them has softened their national traits. If you compare their customs and usages with the Persians, you will find them very similar, as they both follow the precepts of the Koran; but as a nation, one cannot help remarking that they are much rougher and coarser in their manners. The want of civilization amongst them proves that their rulers are always occupied in defending themselves against the attacks of their neighbours, and have never thought of ameliorating their laws. The Affghan has neither the vanity or the politeness of a Persian; so far from resembling him in his easy way, and empty compliments, he is grave, distant, cold in his replies, and even a little too

rude in his manners. Beyond the respect he pays to his master, he looks upon all as his equals, and addresses them without ceremony. A European travelling in Affghanistan, must be immediately struck with the familiarity which exists between the high and low, nevertheless an Affghan is a slave to his master; beyond this, however, he would rather suffer himself to be killed, than subjected to a foreign yoke. Deriving his origin from a wandering tribe, he practises hospitality equal with the Arab.

He is courageous, and believes himself to be the bravest soldier in the world, on this point he is quite convinced; he delights, in recounting the exploits of the Dooraneees that adorned the armies of Nadir, and conquered India under Ahmed Shah; he delights in times of disorder, as it gives him an opportunity of gratifying his inclination to plunder. In religion he is a fanatic, and is as superstitious as a Turk or Persian; being a Sonnee in the strictest sense of the word, he detests the Persians who are Sheahs. Beyond this, he is tolerant towards other persuasions, above all, to Christians, as he believes in the Gospel, and looks on it as an inspired work. Like the Persian, he puts great faith in dreams and astrology, and possesses equally with him all the prejudices of the Mahomedan; but still will partake of food with any one of a different sect to his own; he has no education; with them, their rulers and priests are the only persons that can read or write; their books are in Persian. From their youth they are taught to use the spear and the sword, to take a true aim, and to ride well, and this is all the instruction they receive. An Affghan is a good swordsman; his food is bread, rice, meat and milk; *kouroot*, (a kind of curd,) is his favorite dish; he does not indulge in wine, his religion prohibiting it, but he delights in drinking *bang*, and smoking intoxicating drugs, the use of which for the time produces a sort of stupor, which delights the senses, but the excessive use of which soon brings on imbecility of mind; his dwelling is like the Persians, with this difference, that it is more simply furnished. Their luxuries consist in having fine horses, splendid trappings, rich attire, and above all many retainers. Their costume is much the same as the Persian, only differing in the head dress. The sheep skin cap is here substituted by an unbecoming cap wound round by a large blue turban with a red border, which by the manner of putting it on, points out the particular tribe to which they belong. The

beard they look upon as sacred; nevertheless in place of allowing it to grow naturally, they cut it to a fantail shape; they also clip the centre of their moustaches, allowing the sides only to grow to any length.

The province of Candahar since 1818, has been governed by five brothers, Peerdil Khan, Khandil Khan, Sherdil Khan, Ramdil Khan, and Meerdil Khan; the principal authority is now in the hands of Peerdil Khan, on the death of the latter in 1826. Their troops are about six thousand cavalry, and four of infantry; with more revenue, it would be easy to double this force. The Candaharians are good swordsmen, but not being disciplined, have no steadiness; they receive but small pay, and only assemble when wanted. The infantry are armed with sword and matchlock, long, but of small bore; they have about twenty pieces of cannon almost useless, and without artillery-men to serve them. The rulers of this country seem to have adopted for maxim, to know no other law than their own absolute authority, grasping for money; there are no means to procure it, that they are not capable of. With them to be rich is a crime, which soon brings on confiscation and ruin. They have debased their coin until the alloy preponderates. All merchants and strangers arriving here, before being allowed to circulate any foreign money, are obliged to get it stamped, paying a tax of 5 per cent. or run the risk of its being confiscated; also every merchant before leaving this, is forced to have each article marked by an agent of Government, on which there is a fixed rate, evading which, his whole property is seized, and lost to him for ever. It follows that the commerce of this place, which was once so flourishing, has become almost nothing. Candahar was once the "entrepôt" of the produce of India and Persia; it still receives from India supplies via Shikarpoor; shawls from Cashmeer by way of Cabool, which are sent on to Persia paying a transit duty, which is generally arbitrary. Silk and cottons that are manufactured here barely suffice for home consumption. The principal trade is in madder, tobacco and dried fruits, which are sent to India.

The road which leads to Shikarpoor is not much frequented by merchants; it is a difficult and dangerous route, and about 360 coss long; at the end of this journal, will be found an abstract of the route, given to me by a native of Candahar,* who has often travelled it. This route

* As this route has been travelled now by our troops, a more correct one is substituted.

cannot be considered practicable for an army ; during summer a great portion would perish for want of water ; if it was to be attempted under all hazards, it would be necessary to establish at different points depots of supplies, besides each soldier being furnished with an iron plate to cook his cakes, as done in the East, and every company supplied with a small hand-mill to grind flour ; without these precautions, they would run the risk of perishing of hunger after the first few marches. These difficulties compelled the merchants to select a new line of route further to the North, which passing by Khelat-i-Nassir Khan, through a country inhabited by Beloochees, ends at Der-i-Ghazi Khan, situated on the banks of the Indus. That which leads from Candahar to Cabool, offers none of these difficulties, excepting, that it is not practicable in winter, from the quantity of snow which lays. Although passing through a hilly country, it presents no obstacle to the march of artillery ; it winds through a rich valley, closed in by two ranges of hills having a North-easterly direction as far as Cabool, and running nearly parallel the whole way. The northern range, which is no other than the Paraforisan mountains of the Greeks, is very much more elevated than the Southern one ; this latter seems to abound in metals. The valley is most fertile, and traversed as far as Mokur by the Turnak river, which joins the Argandab. It enjoys a bracing and healthy climate, and this is the reason, that between Pootee and Julduk are still to be seen the ruins of an ancient city called Sher-i-soofa, meaning the city of health. The mountains which extend to the North of the province of Candahar, and the sand hills which go off to the South, make this city the point from whence the two routes to India by Shikarpoor and Cabool lead ; any army from the North, marching to the conquest of Hindoostan, must necessarily pass this, halt, and take proper measures for supporting its further advance.

After forty days' detention, a caravan being about to start for Cabool, we hastened to take advantage of its protection, and quitted Candahar the 28th of October, and in four days found ourselves forty coss in advance, and arrived at Mokur. Our halting places were Pootee, Julduk, Tajee Mookeri ; so far I observed that we passed very few villages, but in their places an infinite number of black tents, inhabited by tribes of Sudoozyes, Alikzyes and Giljies. I remarked, that their women did not cover their faces with that care that those in the

villages did ; however, they still wear a veil, which partly conceals their countenance. Their dress is of a peculiar shape, which somewhat approaches to the European. Their hair is divided in front by two long plaits, which with married women are allowed to hang negligently over their shoulders : but before marriage, they are studded with coins, and partly cover the face before strangers.

At Tazi, we were stopped by a chief of the Giljies, who living independently, and under no control, assumes the right of levying toll upon all caravans : the tax is not fixed, but taken according to his own will and pleasure. He was most arbitrary with us, seizing any of our arms to which he took a fancy, and seeming to be much surprised, as well as offended at our attempting to prevent it. The plain about Tazi was the scene of a bloody battle between Shah Zamoon and Mahomed Shah, sons of Timour, and who disputed the throne of Afghanistan ; the former in losing the battle, was also deprived of his eye-sight by his brother.

A stranger in passing this country on the approach of winter, would remark the number of poles erected in all the villages, and to which are suspended the carcasses of sheep, salted and hung to dry, as their food during this season ; which practice they probably learnt from their neighbours.

The village of Mokur is situated close under the southern face of the Goolkun chain, which defends it from the strong wind of the north ; near the village is the source of the Turnuk river, and in which are found plenty of fish of a good kind.

The people of this hamlet are exceedingly obliging, lodging all strangers in their houses, and their cleanliness, so unusual in the East, would make one fancy they were settlers from another country. Six coss beyond the hills, which border the plain towards the south, is the salt lake of Zourmal.

From Mokur we continued our journey to Guzni. In traversing the plains of Kuzabak and Nani, in advance of this, the country is covered with numbers of small villages, each enclosed by a mud wall with small towers at the angles ; this manner of protecting the villages is very common in Asia, but above all, in Affghanistan, where the number of civil wars that have constantly taken place, have rendered this mode of defence necessary ; as in case of danger, it offers a place of refuge, and enables them to keep what they possess in safety.

Before arriving at Guzni, the conductor of our caravan receiving very discouraging accounts of the state of affairs of the country before us, judged it prudent not to halt there, but turned aside and took the caravan to his own village, which is about six miles from this city. My friend Avitabile and a few merchants, who preceded the main body, not being aware of this alteration in our movements, pushed on and slept that night at Guzni. The next morning at day dawn, we were surprised to see several horsemen enter the village, whose sinister appearance boded us no good, and shortly after, they were followed by another party that possessed themselves of all the outlets of the place. By order of their chief, we were seized, our arms and property taken from us, and the caravan and every person belonging to it conducted to Guzni. On our arrival there we were made to enter a caravanserai, a strong guard put over us, and our effects removed to another place, and had to undergo a rigorous search to ascertain if we had anything secreted on our persons. What surprised me most, was to find that they took no notice of my papers, which I carried about my person in the way Asiatics usually do, and which gave me reason to believe, the vagabonds were only anxious to secure our money. The few sequins found upon me, were seized with great delight. Fortunately, before quitting Candahar, we had exchanged our money for bills upon Cabool, given to us by a merchant, to whom I had been particularly recommended by some acquaintance at Herat, without which, my friend and myself, would have been put to great distress. The next day I was taken before the governor of Guzni, who strictly questioned me as to who I was, from whence I came, and to what place I was going. I answered him readily, and with confidence, that I was a Georgian on my way to India, in search of one of my relatives. On this he commenced bantering me, wishing me to understand, that he was aware of my being an European; he then made me open out all my papers, and shewed me some mathematical instruments and my watch, that had been found with my effects, asking me to tell him the use of them. I pleaded ignorance, and said, that they had been given to my care by an Englishman at Tehran, to be delivered to a friend of his in India. On this he became very serious, desiring me under pain of the severest punishment to tell him where I had secreted my money. I answered him, that having been made a

prisoner, searched, and all my effects taken from me, that I had nothing more in my possession; this seemed to satisfy him, and I was dismissed, under a strong escort, to the caravanserai, where I had the pleasure to find my friend, whom I found had been questioned as well as myself. Our accounts of ourselves were found totally, as before leaving Ispahan, we had agreed upon what should be said, and had also instructed our servants.

That night we concerted measures to attempt our escape; we could hit upon no other plan than that to despatch the servant to Cabool, that our "companions in arms" had sent us from India. He was to find out Nawab Jubbur Khan, brother of the rulers of Affghanistan, and with whom, our friends were on intimate terms, who no doubt would interest himself in our favour. As a further measure of prudence, my friend Avitabile determined, if possible, to escape and accompany him; taking advantage of our people being absent with the horses to water, he scaled the walls of the caravanserai, and contrived to secure two for himself and servant, and managed to effect his escape.

Eight days after, I was agreeably surprised at the governor sending for me, overwhelming me with apologies for the treatment I had received, and reproaching me for having disguised from him the truth. I at first thought it was a trap he had laid for me, but I soon felt myself at ease, when he presented me with a letter from my friend. From this time, he was kind in his attentions, restored all my property, and started me for Cabool, where I arrived the 13th of November. I took up my abode with the noble Nawab Jubbur Khan, (where I found my friend Avitabile,) and whose kind hospitality soon made me forget all the privations that I had lately suffered under his brother.

There are four stages for caravans from Guzni to Cabool; their names are Cheshgos, Shekabad, and Maidan: before reaching this latter, you have to cross a small clear stream, which comes from Azeres, and which after fertilizing the valley of Languered, falls into the Cabool river at Maidan. You come upon a river which is that, that runs to Cabool. From this the line of road to Cabool is well adapted to defensive operations, but it might be turned, if the precaution was taken of marching from Guzni by Goidez and Londgerd. It was at Shekabad that Futteh Khan was put to death. Kamran Shah having a hatred to him, took advantage of his defeat at Kaffir Kola, to deprive him of his eye-sight; but

not satisfied with this revenge, he subsequently had him put to death at this place. This man's fall is still regretted by the Affghans, who speak in terms of praise of his courage, and the able manner in which the affairs of government were conducted under him. Borna Barikzye preserved amidst all his greatness, the simple manners of his tribe, which won the hearts of all about him. To this was added an unbounded liberality. At his death his brothers, to the number of twenty-one, and who were almost all in high situations, revolted; called around them the tribe of Barikzyes, of which they were the chiefs, and assumed supreme power in dethroning Mahomed Shah. Since that time they have divided amongst themselves the provinces of Affghanistan, which they govern without fear of opposition.

Proceedings of the Asiatic Society for the month of OCTOBER, 1844.

The usual monthly meeting of the Society was held on Wednesday evening the 2nd October, 1844, at 8 P. M.

The Honourable Sir H. Seton in the chair.

The following members proposed at the last meeting were ballotted for, and declared duly elected:—

A. C. Barwell, Esq. B. C. S.

John Owen, Esq.

Corresponding member, J. McGowan, Esq. Ningpo Hospital.

And the following new members were proposed:—

T. R. Davidson, Esq. B. C. S., proposed by H. Torrens, Esq. and seconded by H. Piddington, Esq.

Allan Gilmore, Esq., ditto ditto ditto.

J. P. McKilligen, Esq. ditto ditto ditto.

Captain T. Marshall, proposed by S. G. T. Heatly, Esq. and seconded by H. Torrens, Esq.

Read the following list of books presented, exchanged and purchased:—

Books presented.

1. Meteorological Register for August, 1844.—From the Surveyor General's Office.
2. Journal of the Royal Geographical Society of London, Vol. 13th, part I, 1843, London, 8vo.—By the Society.
3. *Extrait du Rapport Annuel fait à la Société de Géographie de Paris, 1839.*—By the Society.
4. *Accroissement de la Collection Géographique de la Bibliothèque Royale, en 1841.*—By the Geographical Society.
5. Journal of the Bombay Branch Royal Society, No. 7, May 1844.—By the Society.
6. Journal of the Agricultural and Horticultural Society of India, vol. iii, part i. By the Society.
7. Oriental Christian Spectator, vol. 5, No. 9, September 1844.—By the Editor.
12. Madras Journal of Literature and Science, No. 30, June 1844.—By the Society.
8. Inquiry into the Means of Establishing a Ship Navigation between the Mediterranean and Red Seas, by J. Vetch. Second edition, London, 1843.—By the Author.
9. Notation Hypsométrique ou Nouvelle Manière de Noter les Altitudes, par M. Jomard, 1840.—By the Author.

Books exchanged.

10. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, Vol. 14, Nos. 88 and 89, July and August, 1844.

11. *The Athenæum*, Nos. 871 to 874, July 1844.

Read the following Proceedings of the Committee of Papers :—

At a Meeting of the Committee of Papers held on 13th September at half-past 10 A. M.

Present.—The Honourable Sir J. P. Grant, the Honourable Sir H. Seton, Lieut. Col. Forbes, C. Huffnagle, Esq., S. G. T. Heatly, Esq., and Rev. Dr. J. Hæherlin.

Resolved,—That the Members of the Society be informed by Circular, that at the next Meeting a President to the Society will be elected.

2nd. That a deputation having been offered to wait upon the Hon'ble W. W. Bird, and his occupations having interfered with his receiving it at the hour proposed, the Secretary he instructed to draw up a suitable address to our late President, requesting him to make choice of an artist of reputation in England, by whom his Portrait may be taken of the Kit Cat size, to be placed in the Meeting Room of the Society, with those of his predecessors in office.

J. P. GRANT, *Chairman.*

And letters as follows :—

To the Honorable W. W. BIRD, Esq. late President of the Asiatic Society of Bengal.

HONORABLE SIR,—I have been instructed to apprise you, that the letter of resignation of your office of President, which I had the honour to submit at the last meeting of the Society, was received with the expression of the regret of its members, at the cessation of your connexion with a body to which you have belonged for more than three and thirty years.

The Society has, I am instructed to state, a lively sense of the value of the support and assistance you have afforded it during the time that you have held the office of its President. You, Sir, have by constant supervision of our Proceedings encouraged and stimulated the work in which the Society has been engaged, and by a judicious use of the opportunities available in your high official situation you have put the Society in a position to diffuse the results of scientific enquiry conducted by the Government, among its members, and the scientific world at large.

Anxious to possess a memento of you, the Society instruct me to request, that you will do them the favour of selecting an artist of good reputation in England, by whom your Portrait may be painted in the Kit Cat size, for the purpose of its being placed in the Meeting Room of the Society, together with those of your predecessors in the Chair of President.

The Society instruct me to beg, that you will take the further trouble of referring the artist you may select to our Agents, Messrs. W. H. Allen and Co. Leadenhall Street.

The Society, in conclusion, direct me to express their thanks and acknowledgments for the kind urbanity with which you have at all times met them, for the lively interest

which you have evinced in their pursuits, and for the steady maintenance which you have invariably afforded to their interests as a constituted body.

I am, Honorable Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

H. TORRENS.

To H. TORRENS, ESQ. Vice President and Secretary to the Asiatic Society of Bengal.

SIR,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th instant, communicating to me the thanks of the Society, for the support and assistance which I afforded them during the time I had the honor to hold the office of President, and requesting, that I would allow my Portrait to be painted for the purpose of being placed in the Meeting Room of the Society, together with those of my predecessors in the chair.

I beg you will express to the Society how sensible I am of the honor they have done me, and how gratified I feel, that the little I have been able to do for the maintenance of their interests, should be considered deserving of so flattering an acknowledgment. With every wish for the continued success of their labours.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Calcutta, 17th September, 1844.

W. W. BIRD.

The Society then proceeded to the election of a President, when the Honourable Sir Henry Hardinge being proposed from the chair, and seconded by Lieut. Col. Forbes, was unanimously elected. It was arranged, on the suggestion of Col. Forbes, that the Secretary should be requested to ascertain from the Private Secretary, when it might be convenient for the Honourable the Governor General to receive a deputation from the Society of such members as might please to form it; and that Sir Henry Seton, as the Vice-President in the chair this evening, be requested to conduct the deputation.

Read the following report and letters submitted to the Society by the Sub-Committee for publishing Sir A. Burnes' drawings:—

The Committee for publishing Sir A. BURNES' Drawings, with reference to their first report to the Society in July 1843, have now the honour to present a farther report as follows:—

The Committee having, as authorized, added to their numbers the undermentioned members:—

Rev. J. Hæberlin,

S. G. T. Heatly, Esq.

And being now composed of the following members; viz.

H. Torrens, Esq., Charles Hufnagle, Esq., Rev. J. Hæberlin, S. G. T. Heatly, Esq., and Henry Piddington Esq., Secretary to the Committee.

Meeting on Wednesday, the 18th September, 1844.

And all the Members and Secretary being present, proceeded as follows:—

1. Read for the information of the new Members, the report of July 1843, and the following Memorandum of the state of the trust up to the present date.

Memoranda for Committee on Sir A. BURNES' Drawings.

1. The Committee was named in March 1841.—Journal, Vol. IX. p. 1130.

2. It decided specially, with reference to *selections* from the drawings, that, as the true object of the trust confided to the Society by Government was undoubtedly to diffuse as much as possible the knowledge which Government had acquired at a heavy expence, and also as matter of justice to the labours of the Envoy and Naturalist, as well as of convenience to future naturalists and travellers in the valley of the Indus and Affghanistan, that the *whole* of the drawings should be published; except perhaps some few very common ones, if any such were found.

3. This was duly reported and confirmed at a general meeting, but it has not been placed upon record. It is supposed to have been confirmed at the meeting of April 1841, See Journal, Vol. XI, p. 72.

4. The preparation of the plates was continued, and with extreme care, till Mr. Ballin's death, when difficulties gradually arose which have not yet been adjusted, but shortly will be so, without, it is hoped, any loss to the Society's interests.

5. Mr. Blyth arrived in September 1841, taking charge of the Museum on the 6th September, (Vol. XI, p. 755,) and this undertaking amongst other matters was then specially brought to his notice, and the drawings and finished lithographs shewn him, their cost explained, &c. He was also shewn that the Acting Curator, Mr. Piddington, had indexed the whole of Dr. Lord's notes in readiness for him to commence on the letter-press.

5. The notes of Dr. Lord were subsequently duly made over to him by the Secretary; and then, and on more than one subsequent occasion, when Mr. Blyth objected to the drawings as inaccurate, and as deviating from already known types, and proposed *correcting* them, it was distinctly explained to him that, in such case, the Society would be guilty of a breach of trust, and even of a scientific fraud; since it would publish as *the drawings* made on Sir A. Burnes' Missions, *pictures* of something which were not so: and that, as well known to him, the now anxious search of all European naturalists is exactly to find the original drawings from which local faunæ (ornithæ) had been published, in order to correct these flourishes, and interferences of artists and naturalists; who, to make better *pictures*, and reduce the birds (principally) to their fancied types and systems, had in many instances created enormous confusion, deprived the original observers of their due credit for active research and accuracy, and had even made them pass, at least as careless persons, if not as impostors; when, on the contrary, the mischief and imposture was the work of the naturalist editors, publishers and artists.

6. The Reports of the Committee in July 1843, *Proceedings*, Vol. XI, p. 615, will shew in all its relations that the Committee has not been to blame, and how far the Society's wishes and orders have, or have not, been acted upon.

7. The Secretary to the Committee deems it his duty to state to the Committee, that with the concurrence of the Society, the whole of these drawings, except such as were required for the artists, were placed under lock and key, and under the special charge of the Librarian, with strict injunctions that they were only to be shewn or delivered by special order, as in the case of the Mackenzie collection and other rare and valuable drawings; the finished ones being of course at Mr. Blyth's disposition. He now learns that they have been all placed in Mr. Blyth's hands.

Dr. Roer being called in, says he knows nothing of Dr. Lord's notes, which have never been in his possession.

Resolved,—That a letter be written to Mr. Blyth, requesting within a given time, (Saturday next,) a report as to the progress made in the text for Sir A. Burnes' drawings, and as to whether Dr. Lord's notes have been recovered.

The following letter was therefore addressed to Mr. Blyth:—

To E. BLYTH, Esq. Curator Asiatic Society.

SIR,—A meeting of the Committee for the publication of Sir A. Burnes' drawings of the Zoology of the Indus, desires to enquire, what progress you have made in the letter-press to accompany those drawings.

I am further to enquire, with reference to a statement made by you that the notes on those drawings by Dr. Lord are lost, whether you have recovered those notes, the Committee having ascertained that the notes were never in Dr. Roer's possession, and it having been proved that they were delivered to you by me, and have not, in so far as any evidence before the Committee goes to shew, been ever out of your hands.

On these points the Committee request a specific answer in writing before Saturday next the 21st instant, to enable the Committee to take early cognizance of the question.

I have, &c.

H. TORRENS.

Committee adjourn to Wednesday, 25th September, 1844.

At an adjourned Meeting of the Committee for the publication of Sir A. BURNES' Drawings, held on the 25th September 1844, at the Society's Rooms, at half-after 10 o'clock A.M.

Present.—Rev. J. Hæberlin, Chas. Huffnagle, Esq., S. G. T. Heatley Esq., H. Torrens, Esq., V. President and Secretary, H. Piddington, Secretary to the Committee.

Read letter from Mr. Blyth.

H. TORRENS, Esq. *Secretary to the Asiatic Society.*

SIR,—With reference to the first question proposed to me in your note of the 18th ultimo, I beg to inform you, that from the commencement of the present month, I have devoted as much time as my other and stringent duties would permit of to the preparation of the letter-press to accompany the publication of Sir A. Burnes' draw-

ings; and that sufficient progress has been made to warrant my undertaking to complete it in the course of a few weeks.

The MS. notes, however, I regret to add, have not been found up to the present time, but they can scarcely have been abstracted from the Museum. Their value was, indeed not great, as they consisted almost entirely of descriptions and slight dissections of well-known species, the localities of which were alone new, and these are further noted on the drawings: but I am surprised beyond measure at the non-appearance of the papers, and do not offer the foregoing opinion regarding their value as any extenuation of the annoying circumstance of our not being at present able to find them.

I have, on several occasions, looked over the papers, with the intention of preparing for the press what little could be extracted from them; and to the best of my recollection have always returned them to the charge of our late Sub-librarian Mr. F. Bouchez, since the period of whose leaving I have never consulted the MS. in question, and had no idea but that it would be immediately forthcoming when I lately applied for it.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Asiatic Society's Museum, September 21, 1844.

E. BLYTH.

Resolved.—The letter from the Zoological Curator having been read, the Sub-Committee deem it necessary to place on record for report to the Society the expression of their extreme regret and surprise at the annoying circumstance, as noted by Mr. Blyth, of the non-appearance of these notes. The Sub-Committee further desire to observe, that Mr. Blyth's assurance that the preparation of the letter-press will be completed in a few weeks is the most satisfactory declaration which it has yet fallen to their lot to report with reference to the important duty confided to them.

The Sub-Committee propose in consequence of the above assurance, to proceed with the printing of the letter-press as it is prepared, in order that the plates already finished may be published at the earliest possible date.

The report of the Committee was considered as satisfactory, and adopted by the meeting.

Read the following letter from Government, and extract of dispatch accompanying it:—

Duplicate.

No. 2288.

From the Under Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Vice President and Secretary to the Asiatic Society, dated Fort William, 12th September, 1844.

SIR,—I am directed to transmit the accompanying copy of a letter from the Hon'ble the Court of Directors, No. 15, dated the 29th May last, with enclosure; also a transcript of a Circular addressed to the Civil Officers in this Presidency, and to

request that the Asiatic Society of Calcutta, will supply the Government with such information regarding the antiquities, the state of the liberal and mechanic arts, and the native customs of this Presidency, as the Museum and collections of the institution may afford; besides suggesting such means as may occur to the Society, for enabling Government the better to comply with the wishes of the Hon'ble Court.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) A. TURNBULL,

Under Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

No. 15 OF 1844.

Our Governor General of India in Council.

PARA. 1.—We forward to you the copy of a letter dated 8th April 1844, addressed to us by the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland, bringing to our notice the state of those interesting monuments of Antiquity, the Cave Temples of India, and soliciting our interposition to preserve them from all such causes of injury and decay as may be obviated by means within the authority of our Indian Government. With reference also to the peculiarly perishable nature of the paintings in the Caves of Ajunta, the Society is anxious that carefully executed copies of them should be made before it is too late, and as those drawings are the only authentic records that exist of many of the usages of the people of India at the probable date of their execution, it would no doubt be little creditable to an enlightened Government to suffer them to perish without an effort to perpetuate their subjects by faithful and artistic delineation. We therefore recommend it to your special consideration to determine upon and adopt such measures, either by the occasional employment of some of our talented officers, when the calls of the public service permit of it, or by such other means as may appear to you to be best calculated to ensure the procuring of good copies of the paintings in the Caves of Ajunta, and of drawings of the other Caves: using such means also for the protection of the Caves themselves against dilapidation, as may be consistent with any use to which they may have been legitimately applied.

2. We take this opportunity also of apprising you, that we are desirous of collecting a series, as ample as possible, of delineations (accompanied by short explanations) of various objects of interest and instruction, illustrative of the state of the liberal and mechanic arts in India, and of the phases, character and condition of its various tribes and people, comprising architecture, implements, costumes, &c. for our library, frequent reference being made to it, (at present with little advantage,) for such sources of information. We should think it possible, that moderate encouragement on your part would readily obtain an abundant supply of such materials from different individuals in the service of the Company.

3. Absolute accuracy being essentially necessary in the drawings, and the use of Dollond's Camera Lucida ensuring that indispensable object, we shall transmit without delay to the Government of each of the presidencies three of these instruments.

We are, &c.

(Signed)	John Shepherd,	(Signed)	Henry Alexander,
,,	Heury Willock,	,,	Robert Campbell,
,,	W. H. C. Plowden,	,,	H. Shank,
,,	J. W. Hogg,	,,	John Masterman,
,,	John Loch,	,,	C. Mills,
,,	Russell Ellice,	,,	W. H. Sykes.
,,	John C. Whiteman,		

London, 29th May, 1844.

The Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland, to J. C. MELVILL, Esq.

14, Grafton Street, Bond Street, London, 8th April, 1844.

SIR,—The Royal Asiatic Society have had before them at their late meetings, a highly valuable and interesting paper on the Cave Temples of India, by James Fergusson, Esq., a gentleman of great research and knowledge in Architecture, who with a professional zeal worthy of all commendation, personally visited the most remarkable specimens of those singular structures, as well in Behar and Cuttack, where they are found in the earliest and most simple forms, as in the Western side of the Peninsula, where the most highly wrought and ornamental examples are extant. It is the principal object of Mr. Fergusson's paper to classify those remarkable structures according to the purposes for which they appear to have been designed, the parties by whom they were executed, and the dates assigned to them.

Mr. Fergusson is fully aware of the great value of the improved knowledge attained to in the reading of the ancient characters in which inscriptions are written on the rocks and temples of India; but he justly considers the ascertainment of a date, by an inscription not to be conclusive as to the age of the excavation, as where the character in which the inscription is written is more modern than the architectural features of the structure. In such cases, it is probable that the inscription denotes a new appropriation or use, rather than the original design or execution. He therefore applies to the examination of their age the test of architectural character, according to certain principles which he states in his able paper.

Mr. Fergusson is of opinion, that the earliest of the Cave Temples are the Buddhist, which he divides into two great classes, the Viharas or Monastic, and the Chaitya or Temple Caves. Among the most ancient Buddhist Caves, after those in the neighbourhood of Gya and in Cuttack, he ranks a very remarkable series, which lying out of the road ordinarily travelled, and being difficult of access, have been seldom visited, and are little known, those of Ajunta in Berar.

The first notice of these Caves is to be found in a paper by Lieutenant Alexander, printed in the 2d volume of the Transactions of the Royal Asiatic Society. The writer there remarks, (p. 365): "In most of the Caves, to compensate for the want of profuse entaille and sculptures are paintings in fresco, much more interesting, as

exhibiting the dresses, habits of life, pursuits, general appearance, and even features of the natives of India, perhaps two thousand or two thousand five hundred years ago, well preserved and highly colored, and exhibiting in glowing tints, of which light red is the most common, the crisp haired aborigines of the sect of Buddhists." He adds further on, "the high antiquity (of Buddhism,) may be satisfactorily proved both from the paintings and sculptured figures in these excavations, which exhibit traces of the existence of a woolly-haired race, now no where found on the Indian continent." Again, (p. 368): "In the gallery or passage behind the pillars are fresco paintings of Buddha, and his attending supporters with *chowries* in their hands. The thickness of the stucco is about a quarter of an inch. The colors are very vivid, consisting of brown, light red, blue and white; the red predominates. The coloring is softened down, the execution is bold, and the pencil handled freely, and some knowledge of perspective is shewn. The figures are two feet and a half, or three feet in height.

(P. 369.) "The paintings in many of the Caves represent highly interesting and spirited delineations of hunting scenes, battles, &c. The elephants and horses are particularly well drawn. On the latter two men are often seen mounted. Ram and cock fights I observed in one of the excavations. The spears are peculiar, having three knobs near the head, and there was an instrument resembling a lyre with three strings. I observed something like a zodiac; but not at all resembling the celebrated one at Dendera."

The following passages in Mr. Fergusson's paper relate to these highly interesting relics of Hindu antiquity:—

"After crossing the valley of the Taptee from the North, you approach a Ghât of some 500 or 600 feet in height, supporting the table land of the Dekhan. The upper line of the Ghât is flat and regular, and the wall, if I may use the expression, tolerably even, except in some places, where it is broken by ravines which extend for a considerable way into the table land above. It is in one of these ravines that the Caves of Ajcend are situated. The entrance to the ravine is nearly half a mile in width, but is gradually narrower, as you wind up it, till it terminates in a cascade of seven falls, called the Sat-Koond, the last of which may be 100 feet high, the others, together 100 more."

"Immediately below the fall the ravine makes a sudden turn to the right, and it is in the perpendicular cliff, forming the outer side of the bend, and facing the Koond, that the caves are situated, the whole series extending, as near as I can guess about 500 yards from North to South-East. * * * * *

"No. 16. The whole of this Cave, the largest, has been covered with stucco and painted, and many of the smaller paintings on the pillars and in the panels of the roof of the aisles, remain, consisting of figures of Buddha and his disciples in various attitudes, rosettes and other ornaments; but owing to the ruined state of the front, the rain apparently has beat in, and destroyed the larger subjects. There are several inscriptions painted on the plaster, and though none remain sufficiently entire to be transcribed, yet sufficient remains to shew, that the characters are those pre-

valent subsequent to the Christian era. On the exterior face of the Cave, however, but very high up, is an inscription of some length in the pure *Nath* character, which would at once give an antiquity to the excavation of about 100 or 200 B. C. as far as such evidence can be relied on.

“No. 17, generally called the Zodiac Cave, very much resembles the last described in almost every respect. Its dimensions are 64 feet by 63, and it has 20 pillars disposed as in the other. It is not, however, so lofty; and the details of the pillars are by no means so graceful or elegant as in No. 16. The paintings, however, are much more entire, and though the colours in some places are a good deal faded, the subjects can generally be made out.

“On the right hand wall as you enter, a procession is painted: three elephants issuing from a portal, one black, one red or rather brown; and the third a white one, which seems the principal one of the group, shewing how early arose the predilection for these animals, which still exist among the Burmese and Siamese of the present day. Chattahs and flags are borne before them; and a large retinue of men armed with spears, swords and shields follow them.

“On the back wall is a hunting scene, in which a lion powerfully and well drawn, forms the principal object of attraction. There are also deer and dogs, and men on horseback and on foot without number.

“In the verandah to this Cave are some singularly interesting paintings; at one end a circular one which I at first took for a Zodiac, though on further examination I gave up the idea. Its centre is divided in eight compartments, and the outer circle into sixteen or seventeen. Each of these compartments is crowded with small figures; but what the subject is, I could not make out.

“Over the door are eight Buddhist figures sitting cross-legged, the first four are black, the fifth fairer; the next is still more so; the last fair and wearing a crown. It is remarkable that there are more black people painted in this Cave than in any of the others. The women, however, are generally fair; and the men all shades, from black to a European complexion. The roof is painted in various patterns, not at all unlike those still existing in the baths of Titus, though in an inferior style of art. I had not time, even if I had had the ability to copy these interesting paintings, and I fear any one who now visits them, will find, that much that I saw has since disappeared.

“The style of these paintings cannot of course bear comparison with European painting of the present day, but they are certainly superior to the style of Europe during the age in which they are executed. The perspective, grouping and details are better, and the story better told than any paintings I know of, anterior to *Orgagna* and *Fiesole*. The style, however, is not European, but more resembles Chinese art, particularly in the flatness and want of shadow. I never, however, even in China, saw any thing approaching its perfection.

“I looked very attentively at these paintings to try and discover if they were fresco paintings, or merely water colors laid on a dry surface, but was unable to decide the point; the color certainly is in cases absorbed into the plaster; and I am

inclined to think they may have been painted when it was first laid on, and consequently moist; but I do not think it could have been done on the modern plan of painting each day all the plaster laid on that day."

From the remarks above quoted, as well as from the personal knowledge of several Members of the Royal Asiatic Society, no doubts remain that the Caves of Ajunta contain unique specimens of Hindoo painting of an age anterior to the Christian era, and it is equally certain that time, and the use made of these places by faquirs and others, Mahomedan and Hindoo, are gradually destroying their beauty, and will soon obliterate every trace of those remains which are valuable, not only as specimens of early art, but as exhibiting the figures and habits of races long passed away, and important therefore, as illustrative of the early history of India.

The Royal Asiatic Society are anxious that before any further destruction of these singular paintings shall be effected, means may be taken to have faithful copies of them made, which they would gladly publish in their Journal, and the Council have directed me to lay the subject before the Honourable Court, with the expression of their earnest desire and hope, that instructions may be sent to the proper authorities in India, to employ some Officer in their service, as early as the opportunity shall present itself, to take such copies of them as may preserve the remembrance of these most curious and valuable remains of ancient art.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) R. CLARKE, *Honorary Secretary.*

(True Copies,) (Signed) T. R. DAVIDSON,

Offg. Secretary to the Government of India.

Circular from the Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to Civil Authorities.

Dated Fort William, September, 1844.

SIR,—I am directed by the Deputy Governor of Bengal to forward the annexed copy of Correspondence noted in the margin,* and with reference to the wishes of the Honourable Court of Directors therein expressed, to request that you will report whether any Cave Temples, or other antiquities exist in the ——— under your charge; and if so, that you will suggest means for preserving them from injury or decay.

2. You will of course understand, that the latter instruction only applies to such temples or buildings as are no longer used as places of worship, and have no responsible guardian appointed for their preservation. You will be careful likewise to explain the object of any researches or enquiries you may institute, in consequence of these orders, so as to prevent any misconception regarding them, on the part of the native community.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) A. TURNBULL,

Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

(True Copies,) A. TURNBULL,

Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

* Dispatch No. 15, of 29th May 1844, from the Honourable the Court of Directors with Enclosures.

It was stated by the Secretary, that he had thought it right to circulate these to the Committee of Papers, who were unanimously of opinion, that it was incumbent on the Society to do all in its power to forward the views of the Honourable the Court of Directors.

Mr. Piddington with a few remarks on the necessity of employing a professional artist who alone he thought, (without any disparagement to the talents of Officers in the services,) could do justice both to the letter and the spirit of these wonderful delineations, in which so much depended not on mere copying, but upon the style of drawing and the tact of seizing what was characteristic and illustrative, especially in what related to the human figure, and to manners and customs, proposed,

“That the Society do address Government, pointing out strongly the great importance of employing a professional draftsman for the copying of the Cave Paintings, as desired by the Royal Asiatic Society.”

This was seconded by S. G. T. Heatly, Esq. and carried.

The Secretary then proposed, seconded by Lieut. Col. Forbes, that the following gentlemen; viz.

W. B. O'Shaughnessy, Esq., Lieut. Col. Forbes, R. Frith, Esq., J. Fulton, Esq., Chas. Hufnagle, Esq., Revd. J. Hæberlin, E. Blyth, Esq., H. Piddington, Esq., S. G. T. Heatly, Esq., A. Webb, Esq. M.D., Capt. Marshall, Capt. Latter, H. Torrens, Esq. Secretary, be requested to act as a Special Committee, for carrying out the views of the Society in aid of the request of Government, and that they have power to add to their numbers, which was also agreed to.

Read the following letter in reply to the application made to Government by the Society, on the motion of the Rev. J. Long, for copies of any Medico-Topographical reports in possession of Government:—

No. 475.

From T. R. DAVIDSON, Esq. Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, to H. TORRENS, Esq. Vice President and Secretary, Asiatic Society, dated the 21st September, 1844.

Home Department.

SIR,—In reply to your letter dated 8th instant, I am directed to state, that the works required by the Society, are not amongst the records of this office.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Council Chamber, the 21st September, 1844.

T. R. DAVIDSON,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of India.

Read the following letter from the Society's London Agents:—

HENRY TORRENS, Esq. *Secretary to the Asiatic Society of Bengal.*

SIR,—We beg to inform you, for the information of the Members of the Asiatic Society, that a bust of Mr. B. H. Hodgson has been commenced upon, (agreeable to the instructions conveyed in your letter of March last) by a Mr. Thornicroft, a talented Sculptor, who has been highly commended to Mr. Hodgson and to ourselves, by a party very competent to judge of such matters, having employed Mr. Thornicroft himself. The cost of the bust will be £84, in addition to which, there will be the shipping charges and insurance. As this sum is much less than the estimate given us, we beg to enquire if you think it would be desirable to appropriate any portion of the balance in the purchase of a Pedestal for the bust to stand upon. The cost of a suitable one of fine marble would be under £20; in scagliola, it would not be more than half that price. We shall be obliged by the favor of a reply by return of the Mail, as by that time the bust will be nearly completed.

We have the honor to be, Sir,

Your faithful servants,

London, 2nd August, 1844.

WM. H. ALLEN and Co.

It was decided, that as a pedestal for the bust had been already placed in the Society's Meeting Hall; the cost of importing one was needless.

Read the following acknowledgment and advice of remittance from the Secretary Agra School Book Society:—

H. PIDDINGTON, Esq. *Calcutta.*

MY DEAR SIR,—I have the pleasure to send a draft on Calcutta for Rs. 548:6:6, the amount of the Asiatic Society's Bill against the Agra School Book Society. The cost of the Sanscrit Books for the Maharaja I hope also to remit soon, as I am in communication with Captain French on the subject.

I hope to hear that you have succeeded in procuring me a copy of the Sanscrit Euclid, believe me,

Yours,

4th September, 1844.

J. MOORE.

Read the following letter from Lieut. Yule, B. E. to the Sub-Secretary:—

H. PIDDINGTON, Esq., *Calcutta.*

MY DEAR SIR,—You were kind enough to give insertion in the Asiatic Society's Journal, to the two notes on the iron of the Kassia hills, which I forwarded two years ago, when on the point of leaving that part of the world. Having collected a good many miscellaneous notices of the people and country during an abode of two seasons in it, it has lately struck me, that some of them were sufficiently curious to be worth publishing, and so little has been given to the public on the region (which is so interesting to me that I cannot well judge what interest it may have for others,) that

I cannot but suppose much of these notes must be new. I should be much gratified if the sheets enclosed should be thought worth printing in the Journal. If not kindly return them.

Kurnaul, September 12, 1844.

H. YULE.

The beautiful and spirited pen and ink drawings which accompanied this valuable paper were greatly admired, and the paper was handed to the Editors of the Journal for early publication. On the suggestion of Lieut. Col. Forbes it was agreed to, that the Secretary should address the Military Board, requesting copies of Lieut. Yule's reports, plans and sections of the country about Chirra Poonjee.

The Secretary announced to the meeting the death of Mr. W. C. Colton, the Assistant Librarian, whose conduct during the time he had been employed, was most creditable, and rendered his loss one much to be regretted.

The Secretary presented, on the part of Dr. Roer, a translation of the Vedanta Sara, which was referred to the Editors of the Journal for publication.

The Secretary presented, on the part of J. Avdall, Esq. an Essay "On the Invention of the Armenian Alphabet," which was also referred to the Editors of the Journal.

The Secretary presented from Dr. Spilsbury, Superintending Surgeon, Sagor Division, for the Museum,

Two large silver coins, dug up at Baitool.

Two smaller coins, dug up at Hoshungabad.

A small gold coin, dug up at Jubbulpoor.

Read a paper from Captain J. W. Abbott, Artillery, Dum Dum, giving some account of the fall of an Aerolite in Khandeish. The specimen was referred to Mr. Piddington, as Mineralogical Curator, for examination and report, and the paper for incorporation with the report.

The Secretary also presented on the part of Captain Abbott, a paper "On the occurrence of Granite in the bed of the Nurbudda," which was referred to the Editors of the Journal for publication.

The Secretary also presented on the part of Col. Stacy, C. B., through Captains Wroughton, B. N. I. and Wintle, B. N. I., two splendid speci-

mens of petrified bone, probably part of the Femur of the great fossil elephant or mastodon, and a carved monumental marble slab which had formed the head-stone of a Mussulman grave. This specimen is a good one of its kind, the sculpture being elegantly executed, and the stone furnishing interesting evidences of a practice formerly common, but now extinct among the Mussulmans of India, the placing head-stones, namely, in memory of deceased persons.

Read the following letter from Captain Macleod, Assistant Commissioner, Moulmein :—

MY DEAR TORRENS,—About two years ago I sent you two images like the present from the Mekkhara Prince at Amaropooora, they were found at Rangoon; no notice having been taken of them, his Highness has sent down two more. He has likewise sent me to be forwarded to you a coin (silver) found at a place called Raleng. It is Hindoo no doubt, there being no coin in Burmah. He likewise has sent a box, containing some black and yellow earths, a parcel of stones, a bottle of water, which is labelled, “Cure for Itch,” or something to that purport, “Falling on both sides of the Khand Ywa hills.” I believe the specimens are from the hills near the Arracan frontier, but I have written to ask; they are nothing I believe but limestone. He likewise presents the Society with a medical work of great repute in Burmah and Siam.

He wishes me to send him some books, and asks particularly for a work on Chemistry, one on Hindoo Astronomy, one on Comets and one on Electricity. He can read English with the assistance of a dictionary. Would you kindly allow me to take the liberty of asking you to get Mr. Piddington to fill up the blanks in the enclosed note, and send it to Messrs. Ostell and Co. Mr. Piddington will know better than I do what elementary works on the subjects I have mentioned, would be most useful to the prince.

Moulmein, 3rd August, 1844.

The models, which are of coarse earthenware and of an ovoid form about six inches by four, are simply figures of Budh (Guatama,) surrounded by his usual attributes, but with a *Deva Nagree* inscription below the figure! which is probably what has excited, and very naturally, the curiosity of the Prince.*

The Secretary was instructed to meet the Prince's wishes in every way in his power.

N.B. A paper has intermediately been published upon the silver coin above noted by Lieut. Latter.

The Sub-Secretary stated, that he had forwarded to Captain Macleod, the following works; viz.

* In the Society's collection we have the converse to this. A figure of Krishna, about three feet high, carved in common sandstone, but in good preservation, with medal of Buddh, (Guatama,) on his forehead like a lady's ferroniere!—EDS.

Thomson on Heat and Electricity; O'Shaughnessy's Manual of Chemistry; O'Shaughnessy's Manual of Electricity; but that he could not find any work treating specially of Comets; and that with respect to a work on Hindu Astronomy, it was not stated if it was a European work on that subject or a Native one which was desired, and that he should communicate with Captain Macleod on the subject. The specimens had not yet been examined. He subsequently learned, that Messrs. Ostell and Co. had forwarded Bentley's Hindu Astronomy.

Read the following note from Captain Bigge, Assistant Commissioner in Assam, accompanying the presentation to which it refers:—

Tin Coins from Pahang on E. coast of Malay Peninsula, North from Singapore; 16 go to the dollar; and these were received from a fisherman off the mouth of the river, in change on a purchase of fish. To coin similar monies is severely punished by mutilation and death. The smaller coin is the Dutch *doit* from Batavia. J. B.

Read the following reports from the Librarian:—

TO H. TORRENS, ESQ., *Secretary Asiatic Society.*

SIR,—I have the honour, by your direction, to report respecting the communication on the part of our Society with the Royal Irish Academy. The Royal Irish Academy, as appears from our MSS. Proceedings, is one of those eight Institutions, (*viz.* the Royal Society of London, the Royal Society of Edinburgh, Royal Irish Academy, Society of Antiquarians of London, Society of Antiquarians of Edinburgh, the Linnean Society, American Philosophical Society, American Academy of Arts and Sciences) with which the Asiatic Society, March 1800, first opened an intercourse by sending them their Researches, and regularly transmitting them, whenever a new volume of the Researches was published. The Royal Irish Academy presented on their part, March 1806, a set of their Transactions, which presentation was, however, not repeated until 1837, from which time they regularly sent their periodical publications to the Society; *viz.* its Transactions from vol. 17 to 19, pt. 2d, (*Vide Journal Asiatic Society*, Oct. 1837, Nov. 1839 and 1841, No. 116,) while I do not find in our Proceedings that the Society since 1837 has, by way of return, forwarded any of its publications to the Royal Irish Academy.

I avail myself of this opportunity to forward you a list of the learned institutions which have been in communication with our Society, by sending it their publications, so far as I have been able to ascertain this from our Proceedings.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

E. ROER.

2d October. 1844.

List of the Institutions in communication with the Asiatic Society of Bengal, from its foundation up to the present date.

A. ENGLISH SOCIETIES.

1. Linnean Society of England, from 1800—1841.
2. Geological Society of England, from 1812 to the present date.
3. Society for the Encouragement of Arts, from 1808 to the present time.
4. Astronomical Society of London, from 1822 to the present time, (regular.)
5. Cambridge Philosophical Society, 1816, (not continued.)
6. Royal Asiatic Society, 1828.
7. Horticultural Society of England, since 1822, (not regular.)
8. Royal Society of London, from 1800—1838, (regular, as it appears.)
9. Antiquarian Society of London, from 1800 to the present date, (regular.)
10. Royal Society of Antiquarians of Edinburgh, from 1800.
11. Agricultural Society of England, 1828.
12. Zoological Society of London, from 1833—1843, (not regular.)
13. Athenæum of Liverpool, 1834, (not continued.)
14. Society of Plymouth, 1828, (not continued.)
15. Statistical Society of London, 1838.
16. Royal Geographical Society, from 1839 to the present time, (regular.)
17. London Electrical Society, from 1842 to the present date, (regular.)
18. British Association for the advancement of Science, 1842.
19. Edinburgh Royal Society, from 1800—1834, (not regular.)
20. Royal Irish Academy, from 1800 to the present date, (regular from 1837.)
21. Agricultural Society of Calcutta, 1828, (irregular.)
22. Medical and Physical Society of Calcutta, 1822.
23. Bombay Royal Asiatic Branch Society.
24. Bombay Geographical Society.
25. Madras Literary Society, 1806.

B. OTHER EUROPEAN SOCIETIES.

26. Société de Caen, 1816, (not regular.)
27. Royal Academy of Caen, 1836, (not continued.)
28. Société Asiatique de Paris, from 1822 to the present date, (regular.)
29. Geographical Society of Paris, from 1825 to the present date, (regular.)
30. Société Royale de Bordeaux, 1828, (not continued.)
31. Royal Academy of Bordeaux, from 1833 to the present date, (regular.)
32. Académie Royale de Marseille, 1835 (not continued.)
33. Société Industrielle de Mulhausen, 1838, (irregular.)
34. Société de Physique et D'Histoire Naturelle de Genève, from 1833 to the present date, (regular.)
35. Société Helvétique des Sciences Naturelles, 1839, (not continued.)
36. Royal Society of Copenhagen, 1816, (not continued.)
37. Société Royale des Antiquaires du Nord, 1836.
38. Batavian Society, from 1828—1833.
39. Amsterdam Royal Institute, 1838, (not continued.)
40. Hungarian Society, 1836, (not continued.)
41. Royal Academy of Munich.

C. AMERICAN SOCIETIES.

42. American Academy of Arts and Sciences, from 1795 (when presenting their memoirs.)
43. Philosophical Society of Philadelphia, from 1800 to the present date.
44. Academy of Natural Science at Philadelphia.
45. Lyceum of Natural Science of New York, 1822—1833.
46. National Institution for Promotion of Science, at Washington, 1843.

To H. TORRENS, ESQ. Secretary of the Asiatic Society.

SIR,—I beg to submit a list of the incomplete and defective works of our Library, as a Supplement to that of the periodicals, which, on a previous occasion, I had the honour to lay before the Society.

To facilitate the use of this list, I have made several divisions. The letter A contains the works, which have not yet been completed by their authors; B those, of which the contents are unconnected with the immediate objects of the Society, and to complete which is not of urgent necessity; while under C are classed the books of reference, and those which bear upon the Researches of the Society. Lastly, D, includes the works which have been presented to the Society, and the subsequent volumes of which may be expected to be forwarded to the Library, as soon as published. Those which are marked by an asterisk, have already been mentioned in our Proceedings for July 1843.

Should the Society decide on an ultimate completion of these works, I would beg to suggest, firstly, that the books comprehended under C, should be completed, and that the Librarian should be authorized to procure them in Calcutta, before the present report is printed, as the prices of the books, if known to be wanted by the Society, would in consequence be raised.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Asiatic Society's Rooms,

Your most obedient servant,

2nd October, 1844.

E. ROSE.

List of the defective and incomplete Works, in the Library of the Asiatic Society.

A.

126. Works of Confucius, by J. Marshman, Serampore, 1809, vol. 1st.
139. Beke's Origines Biblicæ, London, 1834, 8vo. vol. 1st.
313. Arnott's Physics, London, 1825, (2 vols.) vol. 1st and 1st part of the 2d.
534. Illustrations of Indian Botany, etc. of the Himalayan Mountains, by J. F. Royle, vol. 1st.

B.

English.

357. Astronomical Observations at Greenwich in 1816, by J. Pond, 1818, part of the 2d vol.
391. American Almanac for 1836, 1838, and 1839, vols. 7, 9, 10.
637. Luxmore on Strictures, Calcutta, 1814, No. 1.
662. Lectures on Comparative Anatomy, by R. Grant, published in the "Lancet" for 1833-34, vol. 1st.
678. Nautical and Hydraulical Experiments, by M. Beaufoy, London 1834, vol. 1st.
730. The Farmer's Cabinet, Philadelphia, 1840 vol. 4th.

French.

352. *Histoire Céleste Française*, par J. de la Lande, Paris, 1801, tome 1er.

362. *Connaissance des temps à l'usage des Astronomes*, Paris, 1760-1820, (the vols. for the years 1795 and 1804 wanting.)

1152. (Heber's) *Voyage à Calcutta*, Traduit d'Anglais, vol. 2d.

Latin.

1593. *De Rebus Britannicis Collectanea*, Auct. F. Lelando, vol. 2d and 3d wanting.

C.

English.

190a. *Elements of Hindoo Law*, by T. Strange, vol. 1st.

193. *Digest of Mahummedan Law*, by J. Baillie, Calcutta, 1805, fol. (4 vols.) vol. 1st.

424. *Outlines of the Geology of England and Wales*, by W. D. Conybeare, London, 1821, part 1st.

529. *Icones Plantarum Indicæ Orientalis*, by R. Wight, Madras, 1838-39, 2 vols. (of vol. 1st Nos. 7 and 8 wanting.)

536. *Zoological Journal*, London, 1835-36, 2 vols. (complete two vol. and published at 14*l*.)

535. *Description of Malayan Plants*, by W. Jack, Appendix No. 3.

543. *Zoological Researches*, by T. Thompson, No. 1 and 4.

547. *Animal Kingdom of Cuvier*, with specific descriptions by E. Griffith, etc. vol. 10 wanting.

549. *Illustrations of Indian Zoology*, by J. E. Gray, vol. 1st and of vol. 2d parts 11, 12, 15, 20.

583. *Description and Figures of 200 Fishes of the Coromandel Coast*, by P. Russell, London, 1803, vol. 1st, (complete in two vols.) published at 8*l*. 8s.

663. *The Cyclopaedia of Anatomy and Physiology*, London, 1836, 2 vols. (complete in 4 vols.)

807. *Reports on the State of Education in Bengal*, by W. Adam, 3d Report.

836. *Memoir of the Histor. Society of Pennsylvania*, 1834, vol. 3d.

879. *State Papers by the Earl of Clarendon*, Oxford, 1767—1786, 3 vols. (vol. 2d wanting.)

1024. *History of the Indian Archipelago*, by J. Crawford, 3 vols. (vol. 1st wanting, 2*l*. 12s.)

1535. *Archæologia*, vol. 17th wanting.

1545. *Antiquities of Herculaneum*, translated from the Italian, by T. Martyn and J. Lattie, vol. 1st, part 1st, London, 1773.

1681. *Grammar of the Arabic Language*, by M. Lumsden, Calcutta, 1805, fol. vol. 1st.

1843. *Dictionary of the Malay Tongue*, as spoken in the Peninsula of Malacca, by J. Horviser, London, 1801, part 1st.

1846. *Dictionary of the Chinese Language*, by R. Morrison, Macao, 1815, vol. 1st, part 1st, and vol. 2d part 2d.

N. B.—This work is published in 7 vols. from 1815—1821. The original price of which is 11*l*. 5s. but it may now be obtained at 8*l*. 10s.

French.

581. *Histoire Naturelle des Poissons*, par M. de Cuvier, (1st vol. of plates wanting.)
 1171. *Voyage du Levant ou 1692*, par M. Robert, (incomplete.)
 1300. *Voyage aux Régions Equinoctiales du Nouveau Continent*, par A. de Humboldt, (Atlas wanting.)
 1536. *Géographie*, par E. Mentelle et Maltebrun, (vols. 1st, 3d, 4th, 7th and 9th wanting.)
 2086. *Notices et Extracts des Manuscrits de la Bibliothèque Impériale et autres Bibliothèques*, Paris, 1787—1813, (10 vols.) vol. 10th wanting.

Latin.

848. *Memoriæ Populorum*, etc. auct. F. G. Stritter, Petropoli, 1774—1779 (vol. 2d wanting.)
 897. *Monumenta Germaniæ Historica*, Ed. G. H. Pertz, Hanoveræ, 1826, fol. vol. 1st.
 1554. *Aegyptiaca*, by White, Oxford, 1801, part 1st.
 1915. *Lexicon Biographicum et Encyclopædicum à Mustafa Ben Abdalla comp.* Ed. A. Lat. Vert. G. Flügel, Leipsig, 1837, 4to. tom. ii.

*D.**English.*

358. *Astronomical Observations at the Madras Observatory*, by J. Goldingham, 1824—1827, vols. 3—5.
 1421. *India*, by Rickard, 2 vols. (of vol. 1st p. 2d, and of vol. 2d pt. 1st and 2d wanting.)
 368. *Mécanique Céleste of De la Place*, translated by N. Bowditch, Boston, 1829—1839, vol. 1st and 2d.

French.

- * 445. *Récherches sur les Poissons Fossiles*, par L. Agassiz, Neuchatel, (12 livraisons,) 4, 5, 7th livraisons wanting.
 * 387. *Histoire Naturelle des Poissons de l'eau douce*, par L. Agassiz, Neuchatel, fol. 1er livraison.
 * 1256. *Jacquemont's Voyage dans L'Inde*, (incomplete.)
 N. B.—See As. S. 1836, March and Dec. where M. Guizot, on the part of the French Government, offers to the Society those numbers of this work, which had then appeared.
 * *Vendidad Sade*, par E. Burnouf, 11 livraisons.
 * 1495. *Déscription de l'Egypte, ou Récueil des Observations et Recherches. Antiquites, Déscription*, tome 1er.

Ditto ditto *Antiquites, Mémoires*, tome 1er.

Ditto ditto *Planches à ditto ditto* tome 1er.

Ditto ditto *Etat Moderne*, tome 1er et 2d.

Ditto ditto *Planches à ditto ditto*

Ditto ditto *Histoire Naturelle, Planches*, tomes 1er et 2d.

Ditto ditto *Préface Historique et Avertissement*, tome 1er.

1976. *Harriwansa*, traduit by A. Langlois, 1 and 3 livraisons.

German.

948. *Gemäldesaal der Lebensbeschreibungen grosser Moslemischer Herrscher* etc. v. J. v. Hammer, Leipsig, 1837—1838, vols. 4th and 5th.

943. Geschichte des Ormanischen Reichs v. J. v. Hammer, Pesth, 1827—1838, vol. 3d wanting.

REPORT OF THE CURATOR MUSEUM OF ECONOMIC GEOLOGY, AND MINERALOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENTS, FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER.

My report for this month will be brief, for I have been still much engaged in Laboratory arrangements, which occupy more time than I anticipated.

Mineralogical and Geological.—Learning from the Introduction to Dr. Cantor's Chusan Report, that he had brought some Geological specimens with him, I deemed it my duty to make some enquiry for the collection. I learn, that it has been forwarded by the Government to the Honorable the Court of Directors. I should suggest, however, that if there be any duplicates, or the specimens admit of division, we might perhaps on application be favoured with a part of the collection; and nothing from a country so utterly unknown as China, can be without interest.

Dr. Rowe of the Artillery at Dum-Dum, sometime ago, forwarded me the four small specimens now on the table: of these two are of much interest; No. 4 is a true corundum, and No. 2 also is that variety of this little known stone which approaches to the emery of Naxos. Both these are new as Bengal minerals though found in Southern India, and I have written to Dr. Rowe for as exact an account of his locality as he can give me, for the purpose of requesting any one in the neighbourhood, and especially our active associate, Lieut. Sherwill, to investigate this spot carefully if he can visit it. A true emery corundum might be a valuable discovery if within moderate reach of carriage.

I now read Dr. Rowe's letter:—

MY DEAR SIR,—I shall feel extremely obliged, if you will at your leisure examine the accompanying specimens, and name them for me.

No. 1.—In indenting on the Commissariat Department for a medicine called "Toorbut," a Native substitute for Jalap,* the Commissariat Agent at this station bought a quantity of the accompanying, which I of course detected not to be a root, but a fossil, which on inquiry I find a Bunnea at the bazar here had obtained to cure Rheumatism, in the Burra-bazar at Calcutta. This is all the information I can obtain of it. I should much like to know what it is, and it has occurred to me, that you might be able to enlighten me. Its locality of course we cannot learn. While sending these articles, I have taken the liberty of sending three other small specimens of rocks, picked up by myself in marching down from Benares via the Old Hazareebaugh and Bancoora route. May I ask the favor of your naming them also for me.

Dum-Dum, 8th August, 1844.

J. ROWE, Surgeon, Artillery.

Upon examining this curious fossil, the first impression, looking at the stalk, is that it must be a fruit, but I am inclined to think (and Dr. Wallich is so with me,) that it is not so, but that it is a petrified Zoophyte. The regular lines upon it much resemble those of some species of Cyathophyllum and Caryophyllum, and the articulation of the stem which I have been fortunate enough to obtain with some specimens, reminds us of that of some encrinites. Upon enquiry in the bazar, I find they are plentiful there; that they are brought by the Arab ships from Arabia, and called Huzoor el-é'hood.†

* The root of the Convolvulus Turpethum.

† More probably Huzor-al Loheid, i. e. Loheida stones? Hence, brought from Loheida?

They are sold as medicine, at 6 rupees per seer. It will be seen that amongst those I have obtained, some have parts of the matrix adhering to them, others have buds or gemmules, like the corallines, at their base; one has perhaps an incipient ramification like *Cyathophyllum*; another traces of a *serpula* adhering to it, and another the trace of a small oyster or other shell-fish; internally no trace of organisation is seen. Upon dissecting one of these in dilute muriatic acid, I find that it almost entirely dissolves, the solution being pure carbonate of lime with traces of iron, as usual in the grey coloured marbles. A small yellow, green residuum, in light flakey grains remains at the bottom of the glass, and when this was examined by the usual tests, it was found to be iron with trace of sulphur. Nothing of animal or vegetable matter, nor any siliceous spines as in the *Echinidæ* are traceable. We may I think call this fossil, (provisionally) *Loheido-lite*, which does not pronounce upon its nature.

Museum of Economic Geology.

The following letter from the Secretary to the Government of the North Western Provinces, has been communicated to us by Government, with reference to our application for a search for Lithographic Stones.

No. 2166.

From the Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Vice President and Secretary to the Asiatic Society, dated Fort William, 27th August, 1844.

SIR,—I am directed by the Honorable the Deputy Governor of Bengal, to transmit copy of a letter from the Secretary to the Government of the North Western Provinces, No. 733, dated the 12th instant, with its enclosures, and to request, that on the receipt of the Lithographic Stones, therein referred to, a report as to their quality may be forwarded to this office, for transmission to the Lieut. Governor of the N. W. Provinces.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

A. TURNBULL,

Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

No. 733.

From J. THORNTON, Esq. Secy. to the Govt. N. W. P. Agra, to A. TURNBULL, Esq. Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal, dated Agra, the 12th August, 1844.

Genl. Dept. N. W. P.

SIR,—I am directed to transmit to you, for submission to the Hon'ble the Deputy Governor of Bengal, the accompanying copy of a further correspondence with Captain Stewart, Fort Adjutant of Chunar, regarding Lithographic Stones, and to beg that His Honor may be favored with a report on the quality of the stones which have been sent down by that Officer to the Asiatic Society in Calcutta.

I have, &c.

Agra, the 12th August, 1844.

(Signed) J. THORNTON,

Secy. to the Govt. N. W. P.

(Copy,)

From Capt. W. M. STEWART, *Fort Adjutant, Chunar*, to J. THORNTON, Esq.
Secy. to the Govt. N. W. P. Agra, dated 27th July, 1844.

SIR,—In continuation of my letter of 20th May last, regarding the search for Lithographic Stones, I have the honor to acquaint you for the information of the Honorable the Lieutenant Governor North West Provinces, that I sent out a party to the site from whence they had been obtained before, with the view of ascertaining whether or not they may be obtained of better quality, by quarrying deeper into the stratum of white lias, instead of from the surface.

A perpendicular cut 12 feet deep has been made in two places, and four specimens of stone of different qualities have been selected and forwarded to the Secretary of the Asiatic Society, for the purpose of being tested at the Government Lithographic Press.

They are decidedly of a firmer texture and finer quality than the surface specimen sent to the Press of the Sudder Board at Allahabad; but they are still much inferior to German stone, some specimens of which were forwarded for my inspection.

It is therefore expedient to continue the search at the locality indicated by Captain Shortreede, and as the stones forwarded by him have been found to answer for Lithographic purposes, I have no doubt of ultimate success.

With the permission of the Honorable the Lieut. Governor, I should wish to avail myself of the services of Mr. C. H. Burke, late of the Revenue Survey Department, and now residing here as a pensioner; a small travelling allowance of (say) 100 Rs. per month for two months, would be sufficient for all his wants, and fully attain the object desired. I propose detaching him, provided the permission of the Lieut. the Governor is accorded, early in October.

I have the honor to forward for counter-signature, a contingent bill in duplicate for expences incurred in the late operations.

I have, &c.

Chunar, the 27th July 1844.

(Signed) W. M. STEWART, Captain,
Fort Adjutant, Chunar.

(Copy.)

No. 731.

From J. THORNTON, Esq., *Secretary to the Government North Western Provinces, Agra*, to Captain W. M. STEWART, *Fort Adjutant, Chunar*, dated *Agra, the 12th August, 1844.*

General Department N. W. P.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th ultimo, regarding the specimens of Lithographic Stones dispatched to the Asiatic Society in Calcutta, for the purpose of being tested at the Government Lithographic Press.

2. In reply I am desired to convey to you His Honor's thanks, for the exertions you are making as regards the desired investigation.

3. His Honor is pleased to authorize you to pay Mr. Burke, the individual you propose to employ in the search for Lithographic Stones, a sum not exceeding 200 rupees for the trip which he will make on this duty, at such times and in such amounts as you may think best; but this sum is not to be considered a monthly allowance, which is always likely to cause unnecessary protraction of an enquiry.

4. The Lieutenant Governor has been pleased to pass the bill submitted by you for the expense already incurred in quarrying for stones, amounting to Rupees 128 : 10 ; the bill in question has been sent to the Civil Auditor, who will return it to you duly audited, and the Accountant N. W. P. will be requested to instruct the Collector of Mirzapore to pay the amount to your order.

I have, &c.

Agra, the 12th August, 1844.

(Signed) J. THORNTON,

Secretary to the Government N. W. P.

The report on the Stones sent down has not yet been received.

Ordered—That the reports be printed, that the Secretary be requested to renew the Society's correspondence with the Royal Irish Academy, and that the deficient works be completed as soon as practicable.

For all the foregoing presentations and communications the best thanks of the Society were voted.

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